



# *City of Albany*

## *Proclamation*

**IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL HISPANIC/LATIN HERITAGE MONTH  
September 15 – October 15, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, Hispanic Heritage Month provides an opportunity, to acknowledge the diverse population of Albany rooted in ancestry from Spanish-speaking nations and recognize the contributions to our City; and

**WHEREAS**, the observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon B. Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms “Hispanic”, “Latino”, “Latina”, “Chicano”, “Chicana”, “Latine” and “Latinx”, among others are as diverse as the ingredients we put in our pots, and each identifying term may mean something different to each person; and

**WHEREAS**, the term “Hispanic” is an attempt to be inclusive of people of varying origins, where the Spanish language is primarily spoken, it falls short in accounting for those with shared experiences, cultures, and traditions who’s roots originate from non-Spanish speaking countries, communities and mixed-Indigenous experiences; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms “Latino” and “Latina” includes a diverse group of people, with roots throughout Latin America and beyond, and with a heritage connected to the original Indigenous communities of Latin America and Africa prior to colonization; and

**WHEREAS**, many diverse individuals of Latin descent and mixed-Indigenous roots in Albany make incalculable contributions to our neighborhoods, communities, and sectors of the economy, and we are a greater and more vibrant place because of them; and

**WHEREAS**, in the City of Albany, people of Latin descent and mixed-Indigenous roots make up over 12% of the population and the city looks forward to increased collaboration with our diverse community at home and abroad; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hispanic Heritage Month 2024 theme, “Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together,” recognizes the significant achievements of the Hispanic/Latin community in the economic and political industries; and

**WHEREAS**, this celebration also acknowledges the important though often untold roles and achievements Hispanic/Latin Americans have played in our history, identity, culture, economy, literature, inventions, sports, science, medicine and politics; and

**WHEREAS**, educators and advocates alike with resonating identities are powerful examples of academic achievement, cultural pride and self-knowledge, and a commitment to our youth's future and educational equity; and

**WHEREAS**, accomplishments in Albany local elected offices and appointments to City advisory bodies demonstrate the effectiveness of representation of such identities; and

**WHEREAS**, Latin-owned businesses and vendors such as Brezo's, 5 Tacos & Beers, Casa Oaxaca, and Equilibrium Construction among others, contribute greatly to the City's economic development and diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Albany would like to acknowledge and recognize the Familias Latinas de Albany parent group for their ongoing work to support, promote and celebrate the interests of Hispanic/Latin students and families in Albany; and

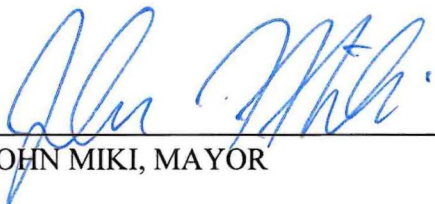
**WHEREAS**, the City of Albany would like to also acknowledge and recognize the efforts of local youth in Albany at Albany Middle School and Albany High School – with a particular emphasis of recognition for Albany High's Conexion Latina club; and

**WHEREAS**, Conexion Latina's membership not only provides visibility of diverse identities, but also ensures sustained campus community engagement amongst peers – which speaks deeply to this year's Hispanic Heritage Month theme of shaping the future; and

**WHEREAS**, though proclamations are simply words of acknowledgement, we as a city are committed to collaborative efforts to support our community members, especially youth who truly do shape the future of our city and society at-large.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim September 15<sup>th</sup> – October 15, 2023, as Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month in the City of Albany. We acknowledge the contributions of Hispanic and Latinx people in our community and recognize that our journey to a fully inclusive society is not yet over.

DATED: September 16, 2024

  
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JOHN MIKI, MAYOR