

# Proclamation



## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

**WHEREAS**, in 1968, Congress passed Public Law 90-498 establishing National Hispanic Heritage Week; this was observed annually until 1989 when it was expanded to the period of September 15<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup> and became National Hispanic Heritage Month, and this has been celebrated annually since then; and

**WHEREAS**, September 15<sup>th</sup> was chosen as the starting date because of its significance in Latin American history; it is the date that five Latin American countries – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua – declared their independence, while Mexico declared its independence on September 16<sup>th</sup> and Chile on September 18<sup>th</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to recognize the contributions, and celebrate the achievements, of Hispanics in the United States; it is a time when we acknowledge the vital impact of Hispanic Americans in developing the nation that we know and love; and

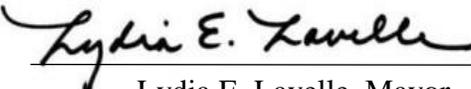
**WHEREAS**, in today's polarized political and cultural climate it is crucial that we take this opportunity to celebrate the diversity of our nation, to be honest in the accounting of our history, to give full credit to all who helped shape the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, according to U.S. Census Bureau data from 2019, 60.6 million people of Hispanic heritage live in the U.S., constituting 18.5% of the nation's population; and North Carolina is one of twelve states with a population of 1 million or more Hispanic residents; and

**WHEREAS**, From September 15 to October 15 every year in the United States, we honor the contributions of Latino and Hispanic communities with the celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month while highlighting their diversity, culture and traditions. The Hispanic League will present Virtual Fiesta 2021 (<https://www.hispanicleague.org/>), El Pueblo will host a virtual event, called La Fiesta del Pueblo 2021 (<https://elpueblo.org/>), the Hola Charlotte Festival 2021 will be held in person in Uptown Charlotte on October 9 (<https://holacharlottefestival.com/>).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 15<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as Hispanic Heritage Month in the Town of Carrboro. I encourage all residents to join in this celebration of Hispanic history and culture, and recognize the many contributions made by Hispanic Americans that have had such a deep and lasting influence on our nation, our state and our community.



  
Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor