

## ***P R O C L A M A T I O N***

***WHEREAS***, in 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim a week in September as National Hispanic Heritage Week; and

***WHEREAS***, in 1988, this celebration was expanded to National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15 each year; and

***WHEREAS***, during this time, America celebrates and recognizes the culture, traditions and contributions of United States residents who trace their roots to Latin America; and

***WHEREAS***, between 2010 and 2020, the Latino population in the United States grew by 23 percent, from 50.5 million to 62.1 million; and Latinos accounted for 51 percent of the entire U.S. population growth during that period; and

***WHEREAS***, by 2060, the Latino population in the United States is projected to grow to 111 million, comprising more than 28 percent of the total United States population; and

***WHEREAS***, the Commonwealth of Virginia is home to over 820,000 Virginians of Latino descent, comprising 10.2 percent of the population of Virginia; and

***WHEREAS***, the City of Alexandria is home to more than 26,000 Latinos, just over 16 percent of the total City population; and

***WHEREAS***, Alexandria has one of the largest percentages of Latinos in Virginia; and

***WHEREAS***, Latinos enrich our communities by sharing their vibrant culture and heritage; and

***WHEREAS***, throughout our nation's history, Latinos have made significant contributions to social and economic progress through their leadership in government, business, education, the arts, science, and military service; and

***WHEREAS***, diversity is one of Alexandria's greatest strengths, and it is important to recognize and appreciate the many achievements of Latinos to our community; and

***WHEREAS***, the City of Alexandria will join with the rest of the country in celebrating the 54<sup>th</sup> National Latino Heritage Month by commemorating essential contributions, sacrifices, and accomplishments that Latino people have made to the United States throughout our nation's history; and

***WHEREAS***, as we build an inclusive community that works for all, we encourage our citizens to participate in the celebrations of Latino heritage in Alexandria this month.

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON***, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the time between September 15<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as:

### ***“LATINO HERITAGE MONTH”***

*In the City of Alexandria and encourage all residents to celebrate the significant contributions of Latino Americans in our nation and city.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF***, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

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**MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON**  
On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

**ATTEST:**

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Gloria A. Sitton, CMC    City Clerk