



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the culture and contributions of Americans tracing their roots to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America and the Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean; and

Whereas: The observation started in 1968 under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period beginning every year on Sept. 15; and

Whereas: The month of September is significant because it marks the anniversaries of independence for the Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, which celebrate on Sept. 15, Mexico on Sept. 16, and Chile on Sept. 18; and

Whereas: Hispanic residents represent Bellevue's third largest population group comprising about seven percent of the population; and

Whereas: Bellevue is a welcoming community and National Hispanic Heritage Month is an important reminder of how much strength we draw as a region from our immigrant roots and our values as a nation of immigrants; and

Whereas: The cultural, educational and economic influence of Hispanic community members enrich all aspects of life here in the Puget Sound region and throughout the Eastside.

Whereas: Bellevue welcomes the linguistic, familial and social wealth shared by the Hispanic community and through the Cross-Cultural Center without Walls we invite the public to learn about the diversity within this community.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim **Sept. 15-Oct. 15, 2023**, as:

National Hispanic Heritage Month

And call upon all Bellevue residents to observe this month and celebrate the contribution of our Hispanic neighbors with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities, including a public performance of Living Voices: 'La Causa' in City Hall's council chamber on Thursday, Oct. 12.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue