



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 starting every year on Sept. 15; and

Whereas: The month of September is significant because it marks the anniversary of independence for several Latin American countries; and

Whereas: Hispanics are Bellevue's third largest population group comprising about seven percent of the population; and

Whereas: Like many other groups in our nation and community, Hispanics have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with an increased likelihood of hospitalization and economic challenges; 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, education and economic influences of Hispanic residents can be appreciated in all aspects of life here in the Puget Sound region and throughout the Eastside.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim **Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, 2021** as:

National Hispanic Heritage Month

And call upon all Bellevue residents to observe this month and to celebrate the contribution of our Hispanic neighbors, with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue