

***Participating Organizations***

*Hispanos Unidos de Buffalo*  
*ECBA Volunteer Lawyers Project*  
*Unyts*  
*Erie County Department Social Services*  
*Western New York Foundation*  
*Buffalo Public Schools*  
*GBUAHN*  
*Kaleida Health*  
*RAPHA Family Medicine*  
*RPCI - Witness Project*  
*Alzheimer Association*  
*Parent Network of Western New York*  
*Wings Flight of Hope*

*City of Buffalo Opportunity Pledge*

Sincere thanks to our community, public officials, community organizations, performers, exhibitors, Buffalo & Erie County Library, Anne Conable, and to all the arts and cultural groups in Western New York for their spirit of collaboration.

***Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc.***

Michelle Agosto, Tamara Alsace, Andrés García,  
Aileen González-Martí, Gilbert Hernández, Steven Pantoja,  
Casimiro Rodríguez Sr., Evelyn Rosario,  
María Rosario Cala, John Sanabria, Dinorah E. Santos,  
Esmeralda Sierra, Maritza Vega, Daniel Vélez  
*Arnold Zelman – Legal Counsel*  
*Stephanie Bucalo - Historian*



# Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in Buffalo & Erie County



**HISPANIC  
HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
*of Western New York, Inc.*

September 15, 2015

12:00 noon

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

1 Lafayette Square

Buffalo, New York

“Honoring Our Heritage. Building Our Future.”



**Profile: Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc.**

The first organized celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month in Buffalo took place in 2010 with the cooperation of the Buffalo & Erie County Library. It became clear to the organizers of the celebration that the events associated with the month were just a small part of building awareness, education and mutual understanding about the important role of Hispanic cultural heritage. The Hispanic Heritage Council was formed as an outgrowth of the 2010 Hispanic Heritage Month experience. Its main objective is to highlight WNY’s Hispanic community, its values and its culture through the community-wide celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15-Oct 15) and with activities throughout the year.

Soon, the Council’s mission was established and through further planning activities, its directors identified a mission, goals and priorities, as well as its core values:

*The mission of the Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc. is to foster and inspire awareness, understanding, and appreciation of past, present, and future contributions of the Hispanic community in Western New York*

**Goals and Common Priorities**

- ✓ Preserve the history of Hispanics in Western New York for future generations.
- ✓ Promote peace, respect, and appreciation *within* the Hispanic Community.
- ✓ Promote peace, respect, and appreciation of Hispanic culture in the larger WNY community
- ✓ Educate ourselves and others in order to accomplish these goals

**Core Values:**

- ✓ **Collaboration** - Collaborate to strengthen projects, maximize resources, and draw in new participants and strategic partners.
- ✓ **Inspiration** - Inspire Hispanic youth to understand and take pride in their heritage so that they may be upstanding local citizens and contribute to Western New York’s quality of life.
- ✓ **Education**- Work with schools and youth groups to incorporate the teaching of Hispanic culture within the Hispanic community and in the community at large.
- ✓ **Leading by example** - Reflect a positive and strong Hispanic/Latino cultural identity.
- ✓ **Representation** - Provide opportunities for non-Hispanic communities to appreciate and share our Hispanic heritage through programs, exhibits, performances, and other initiatives.
- ✓ **Awareness** - Highlight WNY’s Hispanic community, its values and its culture by disseminating information to the community-at-large.
- ✓ **Future-focus** - Secure a place for future generations and community to take a prominent place in the community of the future and learn about and take pride in their Hispanic history, heritage and culture.
- ✓ **Character** - Develop strong character by knowing about, caring about, and acting upon the core values of the Hispanic Heritage Council and working to unify and inspire all people.

In addition to the month-long Hispanic Heritage Celebration from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>, Hispanic Heritage Council annual events and initiatives include:

- El Día Del Niño
- Cinco de Mayo
- Community Education Seminars
- Community Breakfast
- Music and Art Education (Collaborate with Arts and Cultural Sector)
- Hispanic Heritage Corridor (Niagara Street)
- Hispanic Heritage History Project

**Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY Inc.:** *Preserving History for Future Generations*  
For updates, information, and a list of local Hispanic Heritage Month events and activities, please visit: [www.hispanicheritagewny.org](http://www.hispanicheritagewny.org)  
“Friend” us on Facebook!

# Program

*Master of Ceremonies.....Mr. Casimiro Rodríguez Sr.*  
*President, Hispanic Heritage Council WNY., Inc.*

*Invocation .....Bishop Darius G. Pridgen*  
*Common Council President/Pastor, True Bethel Baptist Church*

*Pledge of Allegiance .....Herman Badillo Bilingual Academy*

*Remarks ..... Ms. Mary Jean Jakubowski*  
*Director, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library*

*Proclamation ..... Hon. Byron W. Brown*  
*Mayor, City of Buffalo*

*Remarks .....Dr. Kriner Cash*  
*Superintendent, Buffalo Public Schools*

*NYS Proclamation.....Representing Governor Andrew Cuomo*  
*Upstate Regional Representative*

*Proclamation .....Hon. Mark Poloncarz*  
*Erie County Executive*

**Musical performance**  
*Son Boricua*

**Dance performance**  
*Latin Souls*

**Varied performances**  
*Herman Badillo Bilingual Academy #76 Students*

**“ Celebrando Nuestra Herencia Hispana ”**