



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, throughout its history, New York State has welcomed people from around the world of every nationality, and during the annual observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, we take the opportunity to recognize the various distinct Hispanic cultures that thrive in this State and Nation, whose members share the honored traditions of their homeland countries while contributing to contemporary American life and promoting the values of freedom and democracy; and

Whereas, Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15th – the anniversary of declared independence for five Latin American countries – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua – in addition, Mexico declared its independence on September 16th, and Chile on September 18th; and

Whereas, the United States Congress has established that the period from September 15th to October 15th will be set aside each year for the official National celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and, as home to one of our country's largest Hispanic-American populations, New York State is proud to join in this annual observance; and

Whereas, we appreciate the positive impact that our Hispanic communities have had upon the social, cultural and economic development of this State and Nation, whereby they have excelled in many areas of endeavor including public service, business and industry, science and technology, education, the arts, and sports, and through their hard work, dedication, and continued success, they have improved their own lives and communities, and the lives of people of all backgrounds; and

Whereas, Hispanic Heritage Month fosters greater awareness and appreciation of the contributions made by our various Hispanic communities, and this year's theme, "*Celebrating History, Heritage and the American Dream*" highlights the 200th anniversary of independence for many Central and South American countries and the 400th anniversary of the founding of Santa Fe in 1610, as well as the contributions, struggles, challenges, and successes of the Latino community in coming to this great country of ours and achieving the American Dream; and

Whereas, the Empire State welcomes the opportunity to be the site of events which promote a greater understanding of various world cultures, as it is through such events that our country grows richer, and this celebration is a wonderful means of preserving the customs, music and traditions of all our Hispanic communities as we applaud their continued involvement, expanding horizons, and future success; and

Whereas, in the spirit of goodwill, New Yorkers of all backgrounds join in this celebration of pride in heritage and honor the contributions our Hispanic friends and neighbors have made in many areas of life in this great State and Nation;

Now, Therefore, I, David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 15-October 15, 2010 as

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this thirtieth day
of August in the year two thousand ten.

David A. Paterson

Governor

James Schwab
Secretary to the Governor