

# The City of Holland, Michigan



## Proclamation

**Whereas**, During National Hispanic Heritage Month, we recognize that Hispanic heritage is American heritage. It permeates every aspect of our communal life: our screens, our music, our books, our commerce, and our dinner tables; and,

**Whereas**, the contributions of Hispanics, Latinos, and those Americans whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America have been recognized and celebrated nationally and here in Holland during National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 to October 15), for over 50 years; and,

**Whereas**, the 2020 Census reports that Michigan has an estimated 525,972 Hispanic population. The City of Holland is home to the second largest Hispanic population in the state. Our Hispanic and Latino brothers and sisters, friends, neighbors, and co-workers currently make up nearly 24.3% of our local community and 18.5% of our American population; and,

**Whereas**, we benefit from the many contributions of Hispanic health care professionals, educators, agricultural workers, community leaders, factory workers, pastors, business owners, public service workers, service industry personnel, volunteers and private citizens; and,

**Whereas**, as far back as the Revolution, Latinos in the United States have courageously served in our military and American war efforts; and,

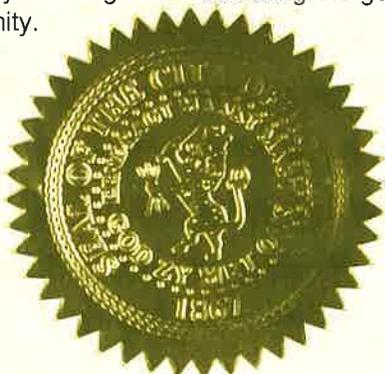
**Whereas**, more than 18 members of the Hispanic community currently serve on our City boards and commissions volunteering to help shape the future of Holland; and,

**Whereas**, Latin Americans United for Progress (LAUP), a driving force for change in the Holland community since 1964, is highlighted by the Holland Museum exhibition "United for Progress: The LAUP Story" now through January 17, 2022; and,

**Whereas**, the City of Holland joins other communities across our nation in honoring the many ways the Hispanic community contributes to our common goals in working together toward a stronger and more inclusive future and a more prosperous America for all; and,

**Whereas**, we encourage everyone to explore our country's Hispanic heritage by participating in Hispanic festivals and celebrations, reading Hispanic authors, viewing LatinX films, dining at Hispanic-owned restaurants and shopping at Hispanic-owned businesses—not just during the Hispanic Heritage Month, but throughout the year.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Nathan Bocks, Mayor of the City of Holland, Michigan, and members of the Holland City Council, do hereby proclaim September 15 – October 15, 2021, **Hispanic Heritage Month** in the City of Holland and encourage residents to participate in Hispanic Heritage Month programming throughout our city. I encourage our residents to share in this annual tribute by learning and celebrating the generations of Hispanic and Latino Americans who have influenced and enriched our community.



Given under my hand and the seal of the  
City of Holland, this 6th of October 2021

Mayor Nathan Bocks