

The City of Holland, Michigan



Proclamation

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 pause to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 until October 15, 2023. The 2023 theme for Hispanic Heritage month is Prosperity, Power and Progress celebrating generations of Hispanics in our nation; and,

Whereas, the Hispanic population in America is estimated at 63.7 million, of which approximately 521,230 live in Michigan, and 8,241 (approximately 24.2% of our population) in Holland (information from the Pew Research Center (2022), vitalstats.michigan.gov (2021), and DataUSA (2020); and,

Whereas, we recognize the contributions of Hispanics, Latinos, and those Americans whose ancestors who came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America; 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 residents; and,

Whereas, the heart and soul of the Hispanic community, rests in their devotion to faith, family, and resilience to withstand hardship. In that same vein, we recognize the great strength of current and future Hispanic youth and the contributions they will make in our community and this great nation; and,

Whereas, since 1964, Latin Americans United for Progress (LAUP) has been diligently serving the Latin American community and acting as a driving force for change in the Holland community. The organization mission is to empower Latinos to actively participate in creating a better community for everyone through advocacy, education, and celebration; and,

Whereas, we also celebrate organizations like Alegria Latina, a radio program providing news, music and information to the Hispanic community founded by Lupita Reyes in 1964 and the many ethnic stores, restaurants, and business enterprises started by our local Hispanic community; and,

Whereas, we invite residents to participate in Hispanic Heritage Month programming throughout our city.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nathan Bocks, Mayor of the City of Holland, Michigan, and members of the Holland City Council, do hereby proclaim September 15 until October 15, 2023,

Hispanic Heritage Month

We encourage our residents to share in this annual tribute by learning and celebrating the generations of Hispanic and Latin Americans who have influenced and enriched our community.



Given under my hand and the seal of the
City of Holland, this 6th day of September 2023

Mayor Nathan Bocks

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nathan Bocks", is written over the printed name of the Mayor. The signature is fluid and cursive.