

## **PROCLAMATION**

***WHEREAS, in 1968, Hispanic Heritage Month was originally observed as "Hispanic Heritage Week" to celebrate the extensive histories of the Hispanic and Latino Community and in 1988 changed to a monthlong commemoration; and***

***WHEREAS, many Hispanic and Latino Americans trace their roots to the cultures of the indigenous peoples of the Americas-including the Arawak, the Aztecs, the Incas, the Maya, and the Taino. Some trace their roots to the Spanish explorers, or to the Africans who were brought enslaved to the New World; and***

***WHEREAS, the term Hispanic or Latino (or Latinx) refers to a person's culture of origin, those who identify having Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Colombian, Costa Rican, Venezuelan, Panamanian, Brazilian, Dominican, or other Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin; and***

***WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans make our community more vibrant through a diversity of cultures, languages, traditions, and religions. There is no single story of the Latin or Hispanic experience, but rather a rich history of contributions that enrich our culture and society; and***

***WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans continue to enrich our economy, culture, education, politics, arts, history, literature, science, and technological developments despite institutional and systemic injustices that prevent and limit these achievements and contributions; and***

***WHEREAS, generations of Hispanic and Latino Americans have served in the America's Armed Forces to defend liberty and advance democracy around the world; and***

***WHEREAS, the Olympia City Council reaffirms its commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and leading with equity to create a culture of belonging by acknowledging and reducing harm, being accountable for injustice, and collaborating with people most impacted by institutional oppression, including Hispanic and Latino Communities; and***

***WHEREAS, this year's Hispanic Heritage Month theme, "Unidos; Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation" encourages us to connect with our Hispanic heritage and community. The theme reinforces the need to ensure diverse voices and perspectives are welcomed in decision-making processes, helping to build a stronger community; and***

***WHEREAS, the City of Olympia affirms that Hispanic and Latino Americans make our city stronger and more vibrant; and***

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Olympia recognizes September 15 through October 15 as***

***HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH***

***In the City of Olympia and encourages the community to celebrate Hispanic and Latino heritage and recognize the impact Hispanic and Latino peoples have on our nation.***

***SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, THIS 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022.***

***OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL***

***Cheryl Selby  
Mayor***