

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed September 15 through October 15, celebrating Hispanic and Latino American people, cultures, achievements, and contributions; and

WHEREAS, the observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week and was then expanded into a month-long celebration and officially enacted into federal law on August 17, 1988; and

WHEREAS, several Latin American countries celebrate their independence anniversaries on September 15th, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, with Mexico and Chile celebrating their anniversaries on September 16th and September 18th, aligning the significance of the observance start date; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 theme, *Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation*, emphasizes the need to ensure diverse voices and perspectives are welcomed and represented in decision-making processes, which helps to build stronger communities and a stronger nation; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans represent a significant and growing demographic of Salt Lake City - 21.2% per 2021 Census estimates data - and we honor the invaluable ways that their traditions, customs, and communities have enhanced our great city; and

WHEREAS, we invite all communities, businesses, and employees to take part in this year's Hispanic Heritage Month events and celebrations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Erin Mendenhall, Mayor of Salt Lake City, proclaim September 15 through October 15, 2022, as:

Hispanic Heritage Month in Salt Lake City

September 15, 2022

Erin Mendenhall

Mayor