

City of Kenmore, Washington

National Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month

PROCLAMATION

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

WHEREAS, many 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 as slaves 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, or other Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latin Americans make our Nation more vibrant through a diversity of cultures, languages, and religions. There is no single story of the the Latin or Hispanic experience, but rather a diversity of contributions that enrich America's culture and society; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate and honor the invaluable contributions the communities have made to the arts, history, law, science and technology, sports, public service, and extensive farming and other physically demanding labor; and

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

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans continue to enrich our region's 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, the Kenmore City Council reaffirmed its commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion by naming it one of its top three priorities of 2021, and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that the Hispanic and Latino American community accounts for nearly 8% of Kenmore's resident population and are therefore an invaluable force in shaping this community and its values; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kenmore affirms that Hispanic and Latino Americans make our city stronger, and our experience in Kenmore more enriching.



NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Baker, Mayor of the City of Kenmore, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **September 15 through October 15th** as **National Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month** in the City of Kenmore and call upon our community to celebrate this month with appropriate programs and activities. **IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, signed this 13th day of September 2021.

Signed:

Mayor David Baker

Attested:

City Clerk Anastasiya Warhol