



## PROCLAMATION

### Hispanic Heritage Month 2026

**WHEREAS**, Sept. 15 is the anniversary of independence from the Spanish Empire for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua; and Mexico and Chile achieved independence on Sept. 16 and 18, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, Hispanic Americans bring a rich cultural heritage representing many countries, ethnicities and religious traditions that are part of the fabric of America; and

**WHEREAS**, between 1968 and 1988, Presidents Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan issued a series of annual proclamations that designated a week in September containing Sept. 15 and 16 as National Hispanic Heritage Week; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1988, the United States Congress adopted a resolution designating Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 of each year as National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

**WHEREAS**, during National Hispanic Heritage Month, the United States highlights and celebrates the culture and traditions of Spanish-speaking residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America and the Caribbean; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hispanic communities of North Carolina have been integral in the history, culture, governance, and economy of the state and will be a critical part of its future as their communities continue to grow; and

**WHEREAS**, Hillsborough is home to a growing Hispanic community that is involved the civic, cultural, and economic fabric of the town and continues to make substantial contributions to the overall quality of life in town; and

**WHEREAS**, regional organizations such as El Centro Hispano, El Futuro, El Pueblo and the Refugee Community Partnership provide many valuable services to Hispanic and Latino residents in Hillsborough and further strengthen the town as a whole;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Town of Hillsborough does hereby proclaim Sept. 15 through Oct. 15, 2026, as Hispanic Heritage Month and calls upon all residents of Hillsborough to celebrate this month through activities and programs that enlighten and inspire our understanding of the amazing heritage of our Hispanic families, neighbors and friends.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the Town of Hillsborough to be affixed this 14th day of September in the year 2026.

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Mark Bell, Mayor  
Town of Hillsborough