



City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County



JOINT PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the observation of Hispanic Heritage Month started in 1968, 56 years ago, as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson, and in 1988, Congress and President Ronald Reagan expanded the celebration of Hispanic presence in the United States to a 30-day commemoration; and

WHEREAS, each year from September 15th to October 15th, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens, residents, and immigrants of Hispanic origin from Mexico, Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Spain; and

WHEREAS, September 15th is significant because it is the anniversary of independence of the Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico, and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16th and September 18th, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Dia de la Raza which is October 12th, falls within the 30-day period; and

WHEREAS, every year the United States Congress and the White House call for public officials, educators, librarians, and all Americans to observe National Hispanic Heritage Month with ceremonies, activities, and programs; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County, Hispanic Americans are the fastest-growing segment of Mecklenburg County's population. The County is a diverse and enriched community and draws strength from the extraordinary diversity of its people; and

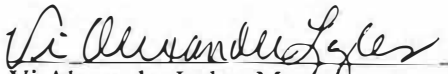
WHEREAS, Charlotte's Patriotic Celebrations and Traditions Committee, also known as Fiestas Patrias, is commemorating National Hispanic Heritage Month for the tenth consecutive year in Charlotte; and

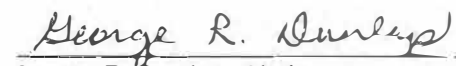
NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, and George R. Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of September 15 - October 15, 2024, as

"HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH"

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS OUR HAND and the official Seal of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.


Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor
City of Charlotte


George R. Dunlap, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners