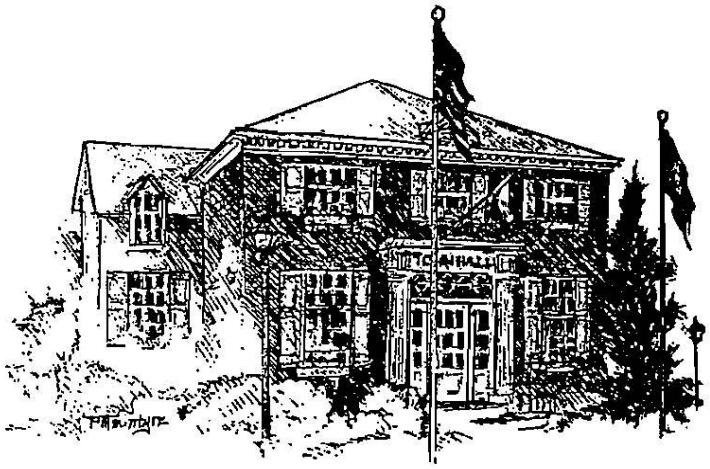

TOWN OF HERNDON, VIRGINIA
PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL HISPANIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 15, 2026

National Hispanic American Heritage Month is annually observed from **September 15 through October 15**, celebrating the histories, cultures, traditions, and contributions of Americans whose roots trace to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean. First established as a weeklong observance in 1968 and expanded to a month in 1988, the celebration marks the independence anniversaries of several countries, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Chile.

Today, more than 70 million people — approximately 21 percent of the United States population — are Hispanic or Latino**,** making this the nation's largest racial or ethnic minority. That national story is especially meaningful in Herndon, where nearly 35 percent of residents identify as Hispanic or Latino. Hispanic and Latino residents help shape the character of our town through their families, businesses, schools, neighborhoods, public service, arts, traditions, and civic life.

The 2026 theme, *"Raíces y Futuro — Honoring Our Roots, Building Our Future,"* recognizes that the strength of a community carries through from one generation to the next. In Herndon, we honor the generations who have shared their cultures, languages, traditions, talents, and hard work with our community, while celebrating the young people, families, entrepreneurs, educators, artists, workers, and civic leaders who are building our future. By sharing stories and learning from one another, we strengthen the connections that make Herndon a welcoming place, where heritage is celebrated and everyone belongs.

Therefore, the Mayor of the Town of Herndon, together with the Herndon Town Council, hereby proclaims September 15 through October 15, 2026, as **National Hispanic American Heritage Month** in the Town of Herndon, and encourages our community to celebrate the histories, cultures, achievements, and enduring contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans. Together, we honor the roots that have shaped our community and look toward a future strengthened by the many traditions and people who call Herndon home.