



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, throughout its history, New York State has welcomed people from around the world of every nationality, and during the annual observance of Hispanic Heritage Month we take the opportunity to recognize the various distinct Hispanic cultures that thrive in this State and Nation, whose members share the honored traditions of their homeland countries while contributing to contemporary American life and promoting the values of freedom and democracy; and

**Whereas**, the United States Congress has established that the period from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup> will be set aside each year for the official National celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and, as home to one of our country's largest Hispanic-American populations, New York State is proud to join in this annual observance; and

**Whereas**, we appreciate the positive impact that our Hispanic communities have had upon the social, cultural and economic development of this State and Nation, whereby they have excelled in many areas of endeavor including public service, business and industry, science and technology, education, the arts, and sports; and

**Whereas**, nationwide, individuals of Hispanic ancestry demonstrate tremendous perseverance that has enabled them to realize many accomplishments and find continued success, and through their hard work and dedication, they have improved their own lives and communities, and made our State a better place for people of all backgrounds; and

**Whereas**, Hispanic Heritage Month fosters greater awareness and appreciation of the contributions made by our various Hispanic communities, and this year's theme, "*Embracing the Fierce Urgency of Now*" highlights the fact that the greater Hispanic population has more opportunities than ever to be a catalyst for change, to add its voice to the tide of change that envelops our country and our entire society, and to raise its visibility as a collective force for meaningful change; and

**Whereas**, the Empire State welcomes the opportunity to be the site of events which promote a greater understanding of various world cultures, as it is through such events that our country grows richer, and this celebration is a wonderful means of preserving the customs, music and traditions of all our Hispanic communities as we applaud their continued involvement, expanding horizons, and future success; and

**Whereas**, in the spirit of goodwill, New Yorkers of all backgrounds join in this celebration of pride in heritage and honor the contributions our Hispanic friends and neighbors have made in many areas of life in this great State and Nation;

**Now, Therefore**, I, David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 15-October 15, 2009 as

## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

in the Empire State.



*Lawrence Schwartz*  
Secretary to the Governor

**Given** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State  
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this third day  
day of September in the year two thousand nine.

*David A. Paterson*

Governor