

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, since 1988, September 15 through October 15 of each year has been declared nationally as Latino/Hispanic Heritage Month, a celebration dedicated to recognizing, understanding, and valuing Hispanic-Americans; and

WHEREAS, the 2000 Census has revealed the population of Latino/Hispanic Alexandrians has increased 75% between 1990 and 2000; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2000 Census 18,882 Latino/Hispanic-Americans have made this City their home; and

WHEREAS, Latino/Hispanic-Americans have enriched our nation and our City's life with their values of hard work, strong faith and commitment to family; and

WHEREAS, we are reminded and educated about the diverse groups that make up our Latino/Hispanic population--through the celebration of their accomplishments and the splendid differences of their many dynamic cultures; and

WHEREAS, Latino/Hispanic Alexandrians originated from Spain, North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. They come from many races and have different religions but find a common bond through the Spanish language; and

WHEREAS, the tireless efforts of Bienvenidos, Hispanic Committee of Virginia, Latin American Student Society, Tenants' and Workers' Support Committee, as well as the City's Hispanic Orientation and Education Program and Multicultural Services Initiative have increased the quality of life for Latino/Hispanics in Alexandria;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim September 15 through October 15 as:

"LATINO/HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH"

in the City of Alexandria and encourage all residents to celebrate the significant contributions of Latino/Hispanic Americans in our nation and city.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 23rd day of September 2003.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk