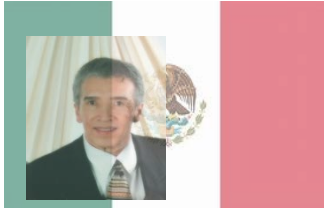


National Hispanic Heritage Month Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana

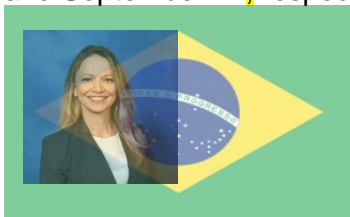
It is celebrated from 15 September to 15 October in the United States and it recognizes the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the our nation.



Hispanic Heritage Month began as Hispanic Heritage Week, established by legislation and signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968. It was later extended to National Hispanic Heritage Month proclaimed by President George H. W. Bush on 1989



Why September? September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the commemoration based on the anniversary of independence of several Hispanic countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, who all declared independence in 1821. These were followed by the celebrations for Mexico, Chile and Belize which are on September 16, September 18, and September 21, respectively.



Based on the 2010 census, Hispanics are now the largest minority group in the United States. The projected Hispanic population of the United States for 2050 is 30.2% of the nation's total projected population



Based on 2019-2020 data, the population of Hispanic or Latino in Erie County is 39,929, which is geographically concentrated in the Lower West Side, South Buffalo and Lackawanna. The Puerto Rican community is the largest group of Hispanic/Latino origin in the area.



Many schools put on dance performances where students mix up cultural, modern dancing and music as they showcase their flags. Celebrations are usually followed by delicious food from all countries. We like to share and celebrate our culture together.



Congratulations to all members of Hispanic Heritage from our School of Dental Medicine community. Each of them contributes to the achievements of our great school. Our faculty members are nationally and internationally recognized for their scholastic work.



Awareness of our cultures inspires understanding and respect, which are the keys to empowerment through diversity in a society of global citizens.