

Participating Organizations -Thank you!

Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY
Buffalo Public Schools - Multilingual Department
D'Youville College Physical Therapy Department
Erie County Department of Senior Services - Caregiver Resource Center
Health Related Services - Buffalo Public Schools
Hispanos Unidos de Buffalo
Native American Community Services (NACS)
Northeast Kidney Foundation
NYS EPIC - Senior Prescription Program
Near East and West Side (NEWS) Task Force
Raíces Theatre Company
Roswell Park Cancer Institute - Esperanza y Vida Program
The Wellness Institute
UNYTS
Wellcare Health Plan
WNY Library Resources Council - Committee for Health Information Access

Sincere thanks to our community, public officials, community organizations, performers, exhibitors, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, Anne Conable, to all the Arts and Cultural groups in Western New York for their spirit of collaboration.

Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York Inc.

Wilda Ramos, Esmeralda Sierra, Sergio Rodríguez, John Sanabria,
Tamara Alsace Ph.D., Gilbert Hernández, Miguel Santos, Maritza Vega,
Casimiro Rodríguez, María Rosario-Cala, Alma Carrillo, Aileen González-Martí
Arnold Zelman - Legal Counsel

City of Buffalo - Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration
Tuesday October 15, 2013 @ 12noon - City Hall Lobby
Mayor Byron W. Brown

We would like to thank our sponsors for today's program



Photography Services - Thomas P. McNulty
WNYMEDIA Services - Marc Odien

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in Buffalo & Erie County



**HISPANIC
HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
of Western New York, Inc.

September 13, 2013

12:00 noon

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

1 Lafayette Square

Buffalo, New York

History

Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the contributions of Hispanic Americans in the United States and celebrates Hispanic heritage and culture. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988. September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. They all declared their independence from Spain in 1821. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.

A Message from the Chairman

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to this very special event: the fourth annual kick off of Hispanic Heritage Month. Thank you all for joining us as we begin a month full of celebrations and events in collaboration with many partners, to recognize the rich heritage and culture of Hispanic people throughout Western New York.

This idea began almost where we are standing today... here in the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, and has grown beyond our expectations. It is with a great sense of pride that the Hispanic community shares its history and values. These values were founded on the principles of faith, family and community. Today, we stand on the shoulders of our ancestors. We owe them immense gratitude and appreciation for helping us forge the future for our leaders of today and tomorrow.

One of the objectives of the Hispanic Heritage Council is to work with all groups to make WNY a better place for everyone. This year has been a very busy year for or members. Here are few of its accomplishments:

- Received certification as a 501c3 non-profit organization.
- Launched our interactive website so that we are able to communicate more effectively with the community. Please visit our website at www.hispanicheritagewny.com
- Began documenting our history here in WNY through the Hispanic Heritage History Project. This important initiative will capture the contributions and accomplishments of our people—past and present—and preserve them for future generations.
- Established Hispanic Heritage District in collaboration with the City of Buffalo and are working on significant improvements with the input of our community.
- Supported the Hispanic Veteran’s Memorial project. This prestigious monument, located at the Buffalo Naval Military Park, recognizes contributions to the military by veterans of Hispanic descent.

Even though much has been accomplished - there is still much more to do. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your enduring support, and thank the dedicated men and women that make up the Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY, Inc. Without their commitment and passion - none of this would be possible. We invite you to enjoy the many planned events and celebrate with us throughout the month which is dedicated to all of you - *El Pueblo*.

God bless, *Cas Rodriguez*

Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY Inc.: Preserving History for Future Generations
For a list of local Hispanic Heritage Month events and activities, please visit: www.hispanicheritagewny.org

Program

Invocation *Miguel Santos*
Deacon, Holy Cross Church

Pledge of Allegiance *Joseph Medina*
Student School 33 Bilingual Center

Remarks *Ms. Mary Jean Jakubowski*
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Director

Proclamation *Hon. Byron W. Brown*
Mayor, City of Buffalo

Remarks *Dr. Pamela C. Brown*
Superintendent, Buffalo Public Schools

NYS Citation *Representing Governor Andrew Cuomo, Sam Hoyt*
Upstate Regional Representative

Proclamation *Hon. Mark Poloncarz*
Erie County Executive

Proclamation *Hon. Timothy Kennedy*
New York State Senator

Proclamation *Hon. Sean Ryan*
New York State Assemblyman

Proclamation *Hon. David Rivera*
West District Councilmember, City of Buffalo

Acknowledgements/Dignitaries *Mr. Casimiro Rodríguez*
President, Hispanic Heritage Council, Inc.

Program Performances

Grupo Variedad
Dance performance
by "Amor and Heritage"

