



*City of Grand Junction, State of Colorado*

# Proclamation

**Whereas,** from America's earliest days, Hispanics have played an important role in our national heritage, and continue to embody the pioneering spirit of America today, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to faith, family, hard work and patriotism; and

**Whereas,** in keeping our historical roots, we celebrate more than 5,000 years of history and heritage of Native, Latino, and Hispanic in this land of the American continent. Hispanics are individuals from or descendants of North, Central, South America, Spain, and the Caribbean's islands, and may speak Creole, Dutch, English, Italian, Spanish, Patois, Portuguese, French, and many regional indigenous languages such as Quechua, Aymara, Guarani, Mayan, Nahuatl, and more; and

**Whereas,** from 1968 until 1988, Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan all issued yearly proclamations setting aside a week to honor Hispanic Americans. In 1988, a bill expanding the observance to a month was passed and signed by President Ronald Reagan; and

**Whereas,** Hispanics have not hesitated to defend and show their allegiance and dedication to this nation in many ways, especially in all branches of the Armed Forces; and

**Whereas,** Hispanics lift our communities and our economy as entrepreneurs, executives, and small business owners, and make contributions in areas such as science, art, music, politics, academia, government, and sports. Hispanic-owned small businesses are the fastest growing businesses in America, with 44% growth in the last 10 years. Hispanics own more than four million businesses and are a testament to the American promise that anyone can succeed in the United States through hard work; and

**Whereas,** September 15<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of National Hispanic Heritage Month, which celebrates and honors the accomplishments of Hispanic Americans who have enriched our culture and society. They came in search of a better life for themselves and their children, and they have helped to create a richer life for all of us; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Anna Stout, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim September 15 – October 15, 2023, as

## *"Hispanic Heritage Month"*

in the City of Grand Junction and call upon public officials, educators, and all Americans to observe this time with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.

Mayor

