



# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MAYOR BALLARD ANNOUNCES CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

INDIANAPOLIS – The City of Indianapolis, in accordance with National Hispanic Heritage Month, will participate in several events from September 15 to October 15 to highlight Hispanic culture and achievements throughout Indianapolis.

“National Hispanic Heritage Month is an excellent opportunity to highlight the perseverance of our Hispanic neighbors,” said Mayor Greg Ballard. “I’m excited about the many events taking place throughout the city, and I encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunities to learn more about Hispanic culture.”

Several festivities will take place during this time that celebrate Hispanic culture and highlight the special contributions that Hispanic have made to Indianapolis and the nation.

“Indianapolis is home to one of the Midwest’s largest Hispanic populations, so we are very proud to participate in this annual observance of Hispanic culture and contributions,” said Carolin Requiz Smith, Director of the Mayor’s Office of International & Cultural Affairs.

**Schedule of Events:**

Mexican Independence Day Ceremony  
Tuesday, September 15, 2009  
Garfield Park  
11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

- Organizers will commemorate the official independence of Mexico from Spain with a historical reenactment.

La Plaza’s Fiesta Indianapolis  
Saturday, September 19, 2009  
American Legion Mall  
Noon to Midnight

- This premier Latino cultural celebration in Indiana is held every third Saturday of September at the American Legion Mall in downtown Indianapolis. Attended by approximately 30,000 people, this family event is free to the public.

Mayor's Latino Breakfast

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

- Latino community leaders from across Indianapolis and central Indiana will discuss various issues facing Latinos as well as discuss opportunities available to Latino business owners, educators, leaders, and not-for-profits.

Latino Film Festival

September 25<sup>th</sup>

Indianapolis Museum of Art

7pm

- Friday night, SADCO (*Sociedad de Amigos de Colombia*) celebrates its 25th anniversary with a film and visit from Pepe Vargas, Founder and Executive Director of the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago and Director of the Chicago Latino Film Festival.

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