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2023 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH POSTER ANNOUNCED

WASHINGTON – The National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers (NCHEPM) today announced the poster selection to accompany the 2023 Hispanic Heritage Month national theme: *Todos Somos, Somos Uno – We Are All, We Are One.* Both the theme and poster reinforce the need to ensure diverse voices and perspectives are welcomed in decision-making processes, thereby helping to build stronger communities and a stronger Nation. NCHEPM members, Federal agency partners, Employee Resource Groups and members of the general public selected the theme through a substantive voting process.

Mr. Boris A. Jiron, a management and program analyst in the Office of the Commissioner at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and a board member of the FDA-HOLA employee organization, submitted the winning artwork, stating:

This art submission for the 2023 Hispanic Heritage Month poster represents the unity and integration of Hispanic culture embracing each other as one. The green grass represents love, growth, and connection. The ground (under the grass) symbolizes fertility, nourishment, and the birth of each culture. The trunk of the tree—the art of the trunk—resembles [our] indigenous ancestors. The shape of the trunk and branches (two hands) represents supporting [the] vision as one. The sun represents a new day for all. The background of pines and mountains: pines symbolize life, and mountains symbolize stability.

From September 15 to October 15 each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the achievements, histories, traditions and cultural diversity of Hispanic/Latino/Latino/Latinx Americans whose heritage is rooted in 20 Latin American countries and territories: Spain, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic. The NCHEPM supports the Federal government's observance activities by selecting the annual theme and poster to be used.

The national observation began 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 September 15 and ending October 15 of each year. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of <u>Public Law 100-402</u>.

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The NCHEPM advocates for the improvement of Hispanic participation and representation in the Federal Government. For more information about the Council, visit https://www.nationalcouncilhepm.com/.