



NEWS RELEASE

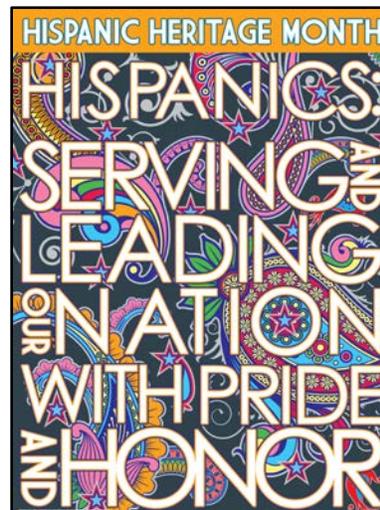
DEOMI RELEASES 2013 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE POSTER

July 17, 2013

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PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – In observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, celebrated each year from September 15 through October 15, the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI), proudly announces the availability of original artwork available for download from our public website at www.deomi.org.

Please note that you may download this hi-resolution image file by clicking the “download” link below the thumbnail image for this poster on the website and take it to your preferred printing facility for display in your organization or use during your special observance programs. All DEOMI special observance poster images are hi resolution and may be used to print posters up to 30 X 40 inches. DEOMI does not have the capability to print posters and mail them out to our customers upon request.



DEOMI illustrator Mr. Peter Hemmer describes this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month observance poster:

“The inspiration for this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month poster came from Latin wrought ironwork and embroidery,” said Mr. Hemmer. “The interlaced shapes of iron seemed to echo interlaced stories of strength, pride and honor which are woven throughout the history of Hispanics’ service to our country. The brightly colored embroidery patterns inspired me by their vibrancy and movement,” he said while describing the background for the poster.

What is Hispanic Heritage Month?

This month has been designated to celebrate the rich heritage and cultural diversity that Hispanic Americans have contributed to our country. According to the National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers, this year’s theme is “*Hispanics: Serving and Leading our Nation with Pride and Honor.*”

This observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson; it was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period—September 15 through October 15. The celebration commences on September 15 because five Latin American countries, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, declared their independence from Spanish colonization on this day in 1821. Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.

The Department of Defense is committed to honoring and recognizing Hispanic Americans that have and continue to serve in defense of our nation and simultaneously contribute to shaping the culture of the United States. Department of Defense components are encouraged to conduct appropriate activities and programs in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

All DEOMI observance month poster files are in the public domain. We simply request you credit the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute when using them.

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