

# Proclamation

## Hispanic Heritage Month

### 2011

I hereby designate October 2011 as Hispanic Heritage Month at Stony Brook University. The purpose of the month is to focus attention on the Latino community, to provide educational opportunities, to celebrate achievements, to recognize contributions and needs, and to present the many and diverse aspects of the Latino culture to the University.

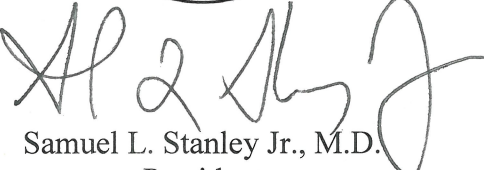
The theme for 2011 is *“Celebrating Unity in Our Differences / Celebrando la Unidad en Nuestra Diferencias.”* In this 22<sup>nd</sup> year of programming, a variety of events and activities have been planned by departments and students around this theme. These include lectures, films, educational workshops, art exhibits, a bilingual mass and the annual closing ceremony that features awards and recognition for students, faculty and staff who have made significant contributions to the Hispanic community at Stony Brook.

The national observation of Hispanic Heritage Month was initiated in 1968 as National Hispanic Heritage Week. It begins on September 15, the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence on September 16 and Chile on September 18. In 1988, the celebration was expanded to 30 days and ends on October 15.

During this 22<sup>nd</sup> annual tradition at Stony Brook University, I encourage you to share, explore and learn more about the rich cultural, political and historical perspectives and the social and economic impact of Latinos. By increasing our awareness, highlighting our commonalities, and promoting understanding we can further appreciate the contributions that Latinos make within the University Community and within our society.

Please join me in supporting Hispanic Heritage Month at Stony Brook.



  
Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.  
President