



**PROCLAMATION**  
**NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, NOVEMBER 2021**

**WHEREAS**, November is National Native American Heritage Month and it is an opportunity to appreciate the vibrant cultures, unique customs, strong traditions, and immense contributions of Native Americans as they are the descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, Solano County was occupied for many centuries by Native Americans who called themselves “Patwins” with some of the Patwin village names having survived phonetically in Solano County in such modern place names as Suisun, Soscol, Ulatis, and Putah; and Sem Yeto, Christianized as Francisco Solano, was Chief of the Patwin tribe and became friends with General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, then as the boundaries of Solano County were set in 1850, General Vallejo, as a respected member of the legislature, named the county after his friend Chief Solano; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the moving stories of tragedy, perseverance, and triumph of Native Americans, and these need to be shared with current and future generations because they have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art; and they have distinguished themselves as nationally elected leaders, inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans have served as some of the fiercest fighters for America for more than 200 years as evidenced by the 32 who have earned the nation’s highest military award, the Medal of Honor; and Native-American code talkers in World War I and World War II, who used indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saved countless of Americans and Allies as they served with gallantry, honor, and distinction, and they continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the American culture can truly benefit from the preserved practices of Native Americans including their tribal sovereignty and their close and mindful relationship with the earth, nature, and all its inhabitants; and despite a painful history marked by unjust Federal policies of assimilation and termination, Native American and Alaska Native peoples have persevered, so it is important that during National Native American Heritage Month, we celebrate the countless contributions of Native peoples past and present, honor the influence they have had on the advancement of our great Nation, and we must recommit ourselves to upholding trust and treaty responsibilities, strengthening Tribal sovereignty, and advancing Tribal self-determination.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that I, Robert McConnell, Mayor of the City of Vallejo, and the Vallejo City Council do hereby declare November as “National Native American Heritage Month” and the Friday after Thanksgiving as “Native American Heritage Day” and we encourage every member of our diverse community to learn more about their rich heritage and the significant roles they have played in building and sustaining our great Nation, and to commemorate this most auspicious occasion with appropriate programs and activities.

**Dated:** November 16, 2021



  
**ROBERT H. MCCONNELL, Mayor**

Vice-Mayor Rozzana Verder-Aliga, Ed.D, District 1  
Councilmember Cristina Arriola, District 6  
Councilmember Hakeem Brown, At-Large  
Councilmember Pippin Dew, At-Large  
Councilmember Mina Loera-Diaz, District 3  
Councilmember Katy Miessner, At-Large