

DENVER CITY COUNCIL



Proclamation No. 24-1184

A Proclamation Honoring the *Mariachi Estelares* at the Viva Southwest Mariachi Festival

WHEREAS, the Latino Cultural Arts Center (LCAC) and the Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) have deeply committed to the celebration and advancement of Mariachi excellence across Colorado and the Southwest; and

WHEREAS, the Viva Southwest Mariachi Conference and Festival, directed by Dr. Lorenzo Trujillo and Alfredo Reyes, has become a hallmark event, showcasing the rich and vibrant cultural legacy of Mariachi music with stories of love, struggle and success; and

WHEREAS, Mariachi music holds deep cultural significance in the United States, serving as a bridge between Mexican American heritage and broader American culture, fostering cultural pride, unity, and mutual understanding while preserving traditions across generations and enriching our nation's artistic and educational landscape; and

WHEREAS, sixteen extraordinary students have auditioned and earned the prestigious honor of being selected for the first-and-only, All-State Mariachi group, *Mariachi Estelares*, a distinguished ensemble representing the highest level of talent, artistry, and commitment to the Mariachi tradition; and

WHEREAS, *Mariachi Estelares* stands as a beacon of cultural pride and artistic excellence, inspiring not only their peers but also the broader community through their dedication to Mariachi, not only a form of entertainment but also a living record; and

WHEREAS, their achievements in theory, instrumentation, and performance exemplify the future of Mariachi, elevating the art form and creating a powerful bridge between tradition and innovation that resonates throughout District 7, District 3 and the greater Southwest region; and

WHEREAS, the Viva Southwest Mariachi Festival serves as a platform to honor and showcase *Mariachi Estelares*, reinforcing the importance of community coming together to celebrate our youth, enriching our cultural landscape, promoting unity, and highlighting the deep-rooted significance of Mariachi in our nation; and

WHEREAS, Council District 7 and District 3 recognize Mariachi as a vital cultural treasure and commends the collaborative efforts of the Latino Cultural Arts Center and Metropolitan State University of Denver for their dedication to fostering the growth of Mariachi in our schools, ensuring its continued merit for future generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY DENVER CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council hereby expresses its deepest appreciation to the **Latino Cultural Arts Center** and the **Metropolitan State University of Denver's *Mariachi Estelares*** program for their unwavering commitment to nurturing the talent and cultural pride of the youth in our state, and for their role in celebrating the rich heritage of Mariachi music.

Section 2. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and transmit copies to the **Latino Cultural Arts Center** and **Metropolitan State University of Denver**.

Section 3. We encourage all residents to join in celebrating the accomplishments of *Mariachi Estelares* and the **Viva Southwest Mariachi Festival**, which honor the spirit, history, and beauty of our shared cultural heritage, on September 20th, 2024, at the Levitt Pavilion Denver.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL September 16, 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Amursh P. Sandora".

PRESIDENT

