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# Chinese American Citizens Alliance

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**National Lodge**  
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## **Chinese American Citizens Alliance Joins Celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, “Shaping the Bright Future of America”**

San Francisco, September 15, 2017—Today the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) joins the country in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, the period from September 15 to October 15, when the United States recognizes the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans and highlights the group’s heritage and culture.

This year’s theme is “Shaping the Bright Future of America,” reflecting the powerful and positive impact of the 57 million Hispanics (18% of the U.S. population) on the country.

Hispanic Heritage Month, whose origins began in 1968 under the Administration of President Lyndon Johnson, was inspired by anniversaries of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua—all taking place on September 15. Mexico, Chile and Belize also celebrate their independence days during this period and Columbus Day (Día de la Raza) is October 12.

Chinese Americans share with Hispanic and Latino Americans a strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service. Both groups have made education, social and economic sacrifices in order to create better opportunities for successive generations in this country. The bonds forged through common, historic hardships and discrimination continue to inspire and enrich our national character, pillared by a multiethnic and multicultural populace. Held in the month of May, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month was originally signed into law by President Jimmy Carter on October 5, 1978.

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Web: [www.CACAnational.org](http://www.CACAnational.org)  
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.