

BY ALDS PEREZ, CHAMBERS, BAUMAN, COGGS, PRATT, WESTMORELAND,
ZAMARRIPA, MOORE, SPIKER, STAMPER, BROWER

Resolution recognizing the PALM Graduation Gala 2026, held in cooperation with the Roberto Hernández Center (RHC) at UW-Milwaukee.

WHEREAS,

PALM GRADUATION GALA 2026

was held on May 2, 2026 at Flores Hall, 2997 S. 20th St., and celebrated the accomplishments of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's 2025-26 Latino graduates and 56 years of the SSOI/Roberto Hernández Center; and

WHEREAS, *PALM stands for Promoting Academics in Latinx Milwaukee, and the PALM Graduation Gala serves as the Roberto Hernández Center's annual recognition of the accomplishments and successes of UWM's Latinx graduating class, and the 2026 gala theme was 'We Keep Growing'; and*

WHEREAS, *At UWM, the Spanish Speaking Outreach Institute opened in 1970, today known as the Roberto Hernández Center (RHC), and the PALM gala serves as a way to recognize the contributions, sacrifices, and accomplishments of RHC students and community leaders including the retention, recruitment, and graduation of Latino students in Milwaukee and beyond, while furthering the relationship of the Latino community and the university and academic support for Latino students; and*

WHEREAS, *Individuals such as Roberto Hernández and others who risked everything to gain equal educational opportunities for the Latino community in Milwaukee have contributed to Milwaukee history, the University, and making a brighter more fulfilled future for the Latino Community in Wisconsin; and*

WHEREAS, *The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has a continued commitment to Latino students and serves as an example to all universities for providing fair and quality educational opportunities to everyone; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith recognizes and celebrates the PALM Graduation Gala 2026 and the 56th anniversary of the Roberto Hernandez Center; and be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the Roberto Hernández Center.*

Introduced by Common Council members José G. Pérez, JoCasta Zamarripa, Mark Chambers, Jr., Robert Bauman, Milele A. Coggs, Andrea M. Pratt, Lamont Westmoreland, Sharlen P. Moore, Scott Spiker, Russell W. Stamper, II and Alex Brower and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on April 21, 2026.