October 11, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to join with Instituto Cervantes in welcoming everyone to today’s presentation of its annual report, *El Español En El Mundo 2019.*

New York is proud to be a city built by immigrants and the home of one of the largest and fastest growing Hispanic populations in the nation. Since it was founded in 1994, the New York branch of Instituto Cervantes has been guided by its mission to share the linguistic and cultural traditions of Spain with our residents of all backgrounds. At today’s event, the Institute’s General Director, Luis García Montero, will present its latest annual report, *El Español En El Mundo 2019,* which features research and analysis by specialists from a variety of sectors and explores demographics and trends of the Spanish language around the world. This program will also highlight the status of Spanish-speaking communities in the five boroughs and across the United States. As you gather to learn more about the second most widely spoken language in the world and the diverse people who speak it, I commend this vibrant organization for its efforts to enhance our cultural dynamism and ensure the rich heritage of Spain remains a vital part of the tapestry that defines our global city.

On behalf of the City of New York, please accept my best wishes for a wonderful event and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor