

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the city of Tampa, Florida has a rich history and cultural diversity that is unique to our community, and much of it can be attributed to the pioneers and immigrants who developed the city; and

WHEREAS, Italians began settling and shaping Tampa's character nearly 150 years ago, and they have contributed to our community's growth and success through their vast contributions including establishing businesses and trades, and excelling in the fields of science, technology, politics, the arts, philanthropy, delicious cuisine, and in many other areas that has made our city unique and prosperous; and

WHEREAS, over 90 percent of Tampa's Italian American community can trace its roots to towns in the Province of Agrigento, Sicily, and in 1991, to foster mutual goals of friendship and understanding, the City of Tampa entered into a Sister Cities agreement with the city of Agrigento where the beautiful city serves as the capital of the Province; and

WHEREAS, for thirty years, the Sister Cities of Tampa and Agrigento have shared resources, provided educational and economic opportunities, encouraged tourism development, and supported the exchange of culture, arts, lifestyles, environments, and sports; and

WHEREAS, **Italy Expo 2022**, held February 4-6, 2022 was established to promote even closer ties between Tampa and our brothers and sisters in Italy, and the event is held at the La Nuova Sicilia/Unita Lodge of Sons and Daughters of Italy in partnership with the Tampa-Agrigento Sister Cities Committee, the Italian Club of Tampa, and Piazza d'Italia; and

WHEREAS, Italy Expo 2022, in celebration of the *30th Anniversary of the Sister City Agreement* established between Tampa and Agrigento, features Sicilian and Italian culture with a piazza theme, and the event will showcase Italian imports from Agrigento, cooking demonstrations, wine and olive oil tastings, Italian fashions and home décor, and physical and virtual store fronts, and more.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim February 4-6, 2022 as

"ITALIAN DAYS IN TAMPA"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to participate in the Italy Expo 2022 that brings awareness to the community and honors Tampa's rich Italian heritage and celebrates the 30th Anniversary of the Tampa and Agrigento Sister Cities Agreement.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 4th day of February, 2022.




Mayor