

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. is an organization established in 1979, that is devoted to preserving and promoting Tampa's diverse Hispanic culture, and it has honored individuals who represent excellence by their outstanding achievements, endeavors, and contributions, and who help enrich the lives of other Hispanics; and

WHEREAS, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. will celebrate its 34th Annual Hispanic Gala with the presentation of the **2022 Hispanic Man of the Year Award** to a person chosen to be honored, a well-known individual admired and respected for his commitment to others, and who has dedicated his life to promoting and preserving the Hispanic culture and traditions through civic and community service; and

WHEREAS, this year's honoree is **Anthony Perez**, who has enriched the lives of others, especially within the Hispanic community throughout his life. Mr. Perez is a first-generation Cuban American born in Chicago, Illinois, and his parent's example of sacrifice and hard work inspired him and they instilled a passion to serve the community and its youth. Florida became Mr. Perez's home when he was a child, and he graduated from the University of Central Florida with a Bachelor of Science in International Business and from the University of South Florida with a Master of Business Administration in Hospitality Management, and he currently serves in management with Bay First Bank; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perez generously contributes his time, energy, and resources to our city and serves in various leadership positions with many nonprofit organizations including the City of Tampa's Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council where he is a board member and has led as its Chairman, the University of South Florida Latin Community Advisory Committee, he mentors students and advocates for scholarships, contributes to the Judeo Christian Health Clinic, and he founded the nonprofit Covered Hearts that provides for the needs of the less fortunate, including umbrellas for the homeless; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perez believes that *there is no greater gift than giving back*, and he is admired for his service and commitment to the Tampa Bay community, his leadership, dedication, and genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of others, and he is an inspirational role model, and certainly deserving being named **2022 Hispanic Man of the Year**.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Friday, October 21, 2022, as

ANTHONY PEREZ, HISPANIC MAN OF THE YEAR DAY

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and call upon all residents to join me in recognizing, commending, and thanking him for his outstanding service and contributions to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 21st day of October 2022.



Jane Castor

Mayor