

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, developed by Hamden L. Forkner in 1937, with a goal of uniting high school and college business clubs, the **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)** was officially established in 1942, with its first charter chapter located in Johnson City, Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, Future Business Leaders of America prepares students for careers in business, and it strengthens leadership skills, personal growth, and professional development, and it has grown over the years to include over 196,950 members in more than 5,200 chapters across the United States, including Hillsborough County FBLA chapters; and

**WHEREAS**, for over eight decades, FBLA has prepared students for success by developing their skills, focusing on leadership, teamwork, goal setting, and creativity, and they provide the necessary tools for achievement in college and in their future careers, and the organization builds strong foundations for the next generation of business leaders who will contribute to the economic growth of our cities and nation while having a positive impact within our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the four divisions of this national organization include *FBLA for High School Students*, *FBLA-Middle Level* for junior high, middle, and intermediate school students, *Phi Beta Lambda (PBL)* for postsecondary students, and the *Professional Division* for business people, FBLA-PBL alumni, educators, and parents, and the organization achieves its mission through focus areas including leadership development, academic competitions, educational programs, membership benefits, community service, and awards and recognition; and

**WHEREAS**, *Future Business Leaders of America Week* was established to recognize and celebrate the achievements of the FBLA organization and its members, and it raises awareness of the important role it plays in the development of our nation's future business leaders, and it encourages participation and support for its initiatives and mission.

**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 5-11, 2023, as

## ***"FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA WEEK"***

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in saluting the Future Business Leaders of America and locally, the Hillsborough County FBLA chapters, and in expressing appreciation for their commitment to the youth and future of our nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor