

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, a special family event, the traditional **Mid-Autumn Festival** is held around the world each year at the end of the autumn harvest, and the important traditional celebration dates back over 3,000 years; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-Autumn Festival known as *Tết Trung thu* is also called the Moon Festival or the Mooncake Festival, and it is an important event that provides the opportunity to come together to share traditions and heritage; and

WHEREAS, in Tampa, Florida the **Mid-Autumn Harvest Moon Children's Festival** is held annually to share the rich Vietnamese American culture and beliefs, strengthen family bonds, and embrace children and teach them important values including love, courage, environmental protection, and it allows them to explore their artistic talents; and

WHEREAS, this year, the Mid-Autumn Harvest Moon Children's Festival, hosted by the Vietnamese American Conservative Alliance (VACA) and sponsored by community organizations including the City of Tampa's Mayor's Asian American and Pacific Islander Council is held on the evening of Saturday, September 23, 2023, at the Carrollwood Village Park Amphitheater; and

WHEREAS, during the festival, there will be entertainment, exhibitions, performances by young Vietnamese Americans showcasing their talents, games, workshops, a Lion Dance, and Vietnamese food sponsored by Café Thuy, and the evening event features lanterns artistically crafted by the children utilizing recycled water bottles and colored paper, and they symbolize beacons that light people's paths to prosperity and good fortune.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 23, 2023, as

"MID-AUTUMN HARVEST MOON CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join in the festivities that celebrates the rich Vietnamese culture and in thanking the Asian American and Pacific Islander community for its many contributions to our community and nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 23rd day of September 2023.



Jane Castor

Mayor