

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, Tampa, Florida is a unique and diverse community with a rich history and culture, including the considerable contributions made by Native Americans and by their descendants including locally the Tocobaga, and throughout Florida, the Seminole, Ais, Apalachee, Calusa, Creek, Missosukee, Tumucua and Yemassee societies; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans were the original inhabitants of the United States of America and are greatly linked with America's history from its beginning when the Puritan Separatist Pilgrim's arrived on the Mayflower ship and established Plymouth Colony, and the Native Americans shared their traditions and knowledge of medicines, remedies, and food sources, and they influenced our nation's development with their many contributions and sacrifices; and

WHEREAS, the Native Americans of our country continue to have a great impact in the United States' history and success, and they are business and community leaders and service providers in all aspects of our nation's way of life including as public servants, philanthropists, artists, entrepreneurs, educators, scientists and more, and they have bravely defended America, serving in each branch of the United States Armed Forces with distinction and honor; and

WHEREAS, the month of November has been proclaimed **National Native American Heritage Month** since 1990 when President George H. W. Bush proclaimed it, and it provides an opportunity for Native Americans throughout the nation to share their culture, traditions, music, dance, arts and crafts, and it allows a platform for meaningful discussions on concerns, solutions and bringing together communities for mutual understanding and friendship; and

WHEREAS, locally, the Colonel George Mercer Brooke Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, established in 1975, will host a tribute during Native American Indian Heritage Month on November 15, 2023 at the Sun City Center Community Association and the event will honor the cultural, artistic, educational and historical efforts made by our nation's Native Americans.

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

"NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the Native Americans in our community who have generously contributed to our nation's rich history and culture, and to show appreciation for the accomplishments and sacrifices they and their ancestors have made since the first settlers arrived in 1620.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 30th day of October, 2023.



Jane Castor

Mayor