

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, *Gay Pride*, also known as *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride* is defined as the positive stance against discrimination and violence toward LGBTQ people, to promote their self-affirmation, dignity, and equality rights, increase their visibility as a social group, build community, and celebrate sexual diversity and gender variance, and *Pride* is an acronym for Personal Rights in Defense and Education; and

WHEREAS, cities around the globe celebrate LGBTQ Pride with rallies, marches, parades, commemorations, community days, concerts, and festivals, and during this time, diversity and the positive impact LGBTQ individuals have on the world is celebrated, and it is a reminder that every generation has brought us closer to true equality, and achievements confirm that people never stop striving towards absolute equality for all of us; and

WHEREAS, individually and collectively, members of Tampa's LGBTQ community contribute greatly to neighborhood revitalization, economic vitality, arts and culture, and the social fabric of our city, state, and nation, and as one of the first cities in the region to have a domestic partnership registry, the City of Tampa prides itself on its inclusiveness and it protects its residents from discrimination and harassment based on actual or perceived race, color, sex, religion, disability, age, marital status, place of birth, families with children, sexual orientation or national origin, and is committed to continued social progress, the cause of human rights, and celebrating diversity; and

WHEREAS, *Tampa Pride, Inc.* is a non-profit corporation, and its membership is a representation of all aspects of the Tampa Bay area and includes professionals, business owners, community leaders, retirees, and individuals who promote and provide a safe, tolerant, and welcoming focal point for LGBTQ individuals from around the region, state, and nation, and they are committed to demonstrating diversity and inclusivity as a community through scholarships for college, trade schools and skilled labor education, the *TOYS FOR KIDS* campaign, celebrations, and an annual festival; and

WHEREAS, Tampa Pride, Inc. will celebrate diversity and the cause of human rights and equality with its **11th Annual Tampa Pride Festival & Diversity Parade** in Historic Ybor City, also known as the GaYBOR District, on Saturday, March 29, 2025, and the exciting parade day includes food trucks, the Pride Lounge, Vendor and Artisan Fair, Pride at Night Party, and much 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 Saturday, March 29, 2025, as

"TAMPA PRIDE 2025 FESTIVAL & DIVERSITY DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join in ending prejudice everywhere it may exist, respect the rights of all people, remember those who have suffered through unjust acts of violence, and come together to celebrate the diversity and richness of our city by supporting and participating in the Tampa Pride events.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of March 2025.



Jane Castor

Mayor