

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, on March 31, 1995, **The Florida Aquarium** opened its doors to the public, and during its first year, it served approximately one million residents and visitors to the Tampa Bay region, with engaging exhibits, conservation programs, and fun family activities, and over the years, it has become a major destination for travelers from around the state, nation, and the world; and

WHEREAS, first known as the Clearwater Marine Science Center, The Florida Aquarium was incorporated in 1986 with the vision of building a first-class public aquarium and nationally recognized educational facility, and with the Garrison Seaport Center as the site and with the support of former Tampa Mayor Sandra Freedman and Tampa City Council, construction began in 1992; and

WHEREAS, accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, The Florida Aquarium's goals include being actively engaged in stewardship of the natural environment as a conservation-based attraction with mission programs that include conservation, research, education and outreach, and it accomplishes these goals through its core values – Respect, Trust, and Excellence; and

WHEREAS, for thirty years, The Florida Aquarium has educated and inspired millions of visitors, advocated for conservation actions, and created exciting visitor experiences such as the Touch Tank, Wild Dolphin Cruise, the Mosaic Exhibit Hall, MORPH'D, TGH Animal Health Care Center, Restoring Florida's Coral Reefs, and so much more; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of its 30th Anniversary, The Florida Aquarium is reflecting on all that has been accomplished over the years, including reaching over one million guests for two consecutive years, honoring those instrumental in its vision, growth and success, and bringing awareness to the community about The Florida Aquarium's contributions to the public, and to the animals, waterways and environment it protects.

WHEREAS, The City of Tampa is proud to recognize **The Florida Aquarium** on this **30th Anniversary** milestone and appreciative of the impact it has made in our city by their economic investment and involvement in the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Monday, March 31, 2025, as

“THE FLORIDA AQUARIUM ANNIVERSARY DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating them on this special 30th Anniversary occasion, thanking them for all they have contributed to our community and to conservation over the years, and in wishing them continued success in the future.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 31st day of March 2025.



Jane Castor
Mayor