

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, established in 1983, the **City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council** (MHAC) is a group of dedicated Hispanic individuals who are appointed by the Mayor to serve as a liaison between City government and the Hispanic community, and are a forum for those who need to voice their concerns to community leaders and City officials, and they accomplish their goals and objectives through programs, projects, and activities; and

WHEREAS, an annual City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council event, the ***Latinos Unidos Luncheon*** showcases the growing presence and economic impact of Latinos in our city, state, and nation, and celebrates enhancements Hispanics have made to our way of life in science, technology, government, business, education, the arts and in so many other important areas, and proceeds from the event have assisted Hispanic students in financial need over the years through scholarship endowments totaling more than \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the **26th Annual Mayor's Latinos Unidos Luncheon** on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, held at the Hilton Tampa Downtown Hotel highlights United States Army Officer, Brigadier General Hector Pagen, the first Hispanic of Puerto Rican descent to become Deputy Commanding General of the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the late Matilda Martinez Garcia (1919-2016) was a charter member of the City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council who had served since its founding, and the organization established the ***Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award*** in honor of her over three decades of dedication and service, and it is awarded at the luncheon to an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the Hispanic community and the people of Tampa; and

WHEREAS, this year, the ***2025 Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award*** is presented to **Nancy Hernandez, Founder of Mujeres Restauradas por Dios**, an organization that addresses critical needs within the Latino and Hispanic communities, and Ms. Hernandez is also recognized for her life-long dedication to empowering others, and she serves as an inspiration to those who strive to excel and make an impactful difference within their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 6, 2025, as

"LATINOS UNIDOS DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, in honor of the Hispanic community's commitment to excellence, and ask that all citizens of Tampa support this occasion and offer congratulations to Nancy Hernandez on her well-deserved honor.



Jane Castor

Mayor