

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the city of Tampa, Florida has long been a community that values diversity and celebrates the rich heritage of its residents that makes our city uniquely special, and we appreciate that the shared experiences and culture of our citizens makes our region stronger, vibrant, and successful; and

WHEREAS, the Haitian culture is deeply rooted in resilience, artistry, and with a proud history of perseverance, and there are over 1.5 million people of Haitian descent living, working, raising families, and contributing throughout the United States, with the highest number residing in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Haitian American individuals across our nation, state, and city contribute substantially to our communities as business owners, public servants, community leaders, educators, artists, through philanthropy and volunteerism, and they are involved in all aspects of the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, the Haitian Flag was officially adopted on May 18, 1804, and each year, the day is observed and celebrated in Haiti as a public holiday, and communities throughout the United States, including Tampa, Florida, honor **Haitian Flag Day** with special events, festivals, parades, and other celebrations; and

WHEREAS, the Haitian Flag Day Cinema Celebration Coalition is a diverse group of dedicated professionals from various fields who have come together to plan, organize, and execute a celebration in honor of Haitian Flag Day, and they are united by a shared passion for cultural preservation and community empowerment; and

WHEREAS, the Haitian Flag Day Cinema Celebration Coalition is hosting its inaugural **Haitian Flag Day Cinema Celebration** on Sunday, May 11, 2025, at the historic Tampa Theatre, and the event offers an opportunity for the community to join together to experience Haitian culture through cinema, cultural exchange, networking, and collaboration, and the celebration includes an award ceremony honoring local leaders, businesses, and organizations who have made significant contributions to the Tampa Bay 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 Sunday, May 11, 2025, as

“HAITIAN FLAG DAY CINEMA CELEBRATION”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking the Haitian community in Tampa, around the state, and throughout the nation for their many contributions, and in showing appreciation to the Haitian Flag Day Cinema Celebration Coalition for their efforts in sharing the rich Haitian heritage with others in our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of April 2025.



Jane Castor

Mayor