

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the city of Tampa is enriched by its cultural diversity, unique heritage and artistic traditions brought by its vibrant international communities; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1992, the Srigantha Kannada Koota of Florida is a community-based cultural organization serving the Kannada-speaking population of the Tampa Bay area, and its mission includes promoting the rich culture and heritage of Karnataka, India, and sharing its traditions, with a focus on the next generation throughout Florida, the nation, and internationally; and

WHEREAS, a nonprofit organization, Srigantha Kannada Koota of Florida is dedicated to representing the interest and promotion of the culture and language of Kannada, a Dravidian language spoken predominantly in the state of Karnataka, and its mission and members have contributed substantially to the Tampa Bay community culturally, educationally, and socially through programs, events and educational activities that foster unity, inter-generational participation, and cultural awareness; and

WHEREAS, hosted by Srigantha Kannada Koota of Florida, the **Sankranthi 2026 Celebration** is held on Saturday, January 17, 2026, at the India Cultural and Conference Center located in Tampa, and the day will include cultural programs, games, food, community gatherings, and more; and

WHEREAS, during the celebration, there will be special entertainment by Rajesh Krishnan, internationally recognized for his contributions to Kannada music and he is well-known for his commitment to preserving traditional art forms that promote cultural diversity, community pride, and cross-cultural appreciation.

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, January 17, 2026, as

“SANKRANTHI 2026 CELEBRATION DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join in the festivities that celebrate our rich culture and in thanking the Srigantha Kannada Koota of Florida organization for its many contributions to our community and nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 15th day of January 2026.



Jane Castor

Mayor