

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, founded on December 4, 1906, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, **Alpha Phi Alpha (ΑΦΑ) Fraternity, Inc.** was the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African American men, and its mission is to develop leaders, promote brotherhood, and academic excellence, while providing service and advocacy for our communities; and

WHEREAS, the **Gamma Zeta Lambda Tampa Alumni Chapter** of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., (*Tampa Alphas*) was chartered on March 21, 1945, in the city of Tampa, Florida, with a mission to uplift humanity by providing opportunity through education, community development, and social awareness, and it supports the national fraternity's traditions, objectives, and vision, and for eight decades, the organization has provided valuable service to the Tampa Bay community; and

WHEREAS, Gamma Zeta Lambda established **GZL Educational Foundation, Inc.** in 2004 to focus on providing education and training services to improve the quality of life for those in the Tampa community, and it accomplishes this through programs including a partnership program with **Big Brother Big Sisters** that leads the way for youth to transition into the **Men of Tomorrow (MOT)**, a successful mentoring program for high school students, **Brother's Keeper**, a service program, **College Life to Corporate Life Initiative**, and **Project Alpha**, a partnership program with the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation; and

WHEREAS, since 2004, the GZL Educational Foundation, Inc. has awarded over \$250,000 in scholarships, grants, academic awards, and assistance for students, and the organization is involved with facilitating various workshops and college tours, and it is committed to *Empowering the Next Generation: Developing Leaders of Tomorrow*; and

WHEREAS, annually, the Gamma Zeta Lambda Chapter and GZL Educational Foundation, Inc. host a **Black and Gold Scholarship Banquet and Ball** for an evening of recognition, encouragement, entertainment, dinner, and dancing with the proceeds helping to fund the Men of Tomorrow program and scholarships, and this year, on Saturday, December 6, 2025, at the Hilton Tampa Downtown Hotel in Tampa, Florida, featuring the theme **The Golden Renaissance: A Celebration of Excellence** that recognizes the impact of the MOT program, and the talents and accomplishments of the young men who have participated, and the evening culminates the year of fundraising activities and provides an opportunity for members and guests to celebrate all that has been accomplished over the past 80 years.

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, December 6, 2025, as

“GAMMA ZETA LAMBDA TAMPA CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.’S BLACK & GOLD SCHOLARSHIP BALL DAY”

in the city of Tampa and urge all citizens to join me in thanking the Gamma Zeta Lambda Tampa Alumni Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for their support and dedication to the citizens and youth of our community, congratulating them on their 80th Anniversary milestone, and in wishing them continued success as they strive to make a difference in the lives of others.



Jane Castor
Mayor