

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, in 1967, Reverend James Cleveland, the “King of Gospel,” called friends together in Detroit, Michigan seeking to advance the Christian message through the medium of Gospel music and envisioning a means to promote the accountability and credibility of this music style, the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc. (GMWA) was formed; and

WHEREAS, the Gospel Music Workshop of America is a non-profit, interdenominational, interracial, non-sexist oriented, international, and voluntary association of singers and musicians, and includes ministers, educators, business professionals, and academic partnerships who join together for education, cooperation, and the continuation of the heritage of Gospel music; and

WHEREAS, since his passing in 1991, the indelible mark of Reverend James Cleveland’s unique and gifted leadership has continued to inspire and motivate more than 75,000 members of GMWA worldwide, which now includes over 200 chapters serving cities across this country, and internationally with chapters in Africa, Canada, Caribbean Islands, and Japan; and

WHEREAS, the GMWA will hold it’s 44th Annual National Convention at the Tampa Convention Center during the week of August 13-19, 2011, and the chosen theme is “Remembering The Visionarian & Embracing The Vision;” and

WHEREAS, on the Saturday, August 13th, over 200 volunteers will participate in the 3rd Annual “GMWA Serves,” the community outreach arm of GMWA, by going out into the Tampa community and providing service, encouragement, prayers, and gospel music to thousands of residents through 10 Tampa charitable organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay Chapter of GMWA and the City of Tampa are proud that our city was chosen as the site for the 44th Annual National Convention and honored to welcome all delegates as they join many of today’s top Gospel recording artists and musicians in sharing their talents with others, and appreciative of the GMWA Serves volunteers for their efforts on behalf of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim August 13-19, 2011 as

“GOSPEL MUSIC WORKSHOP OF AMERICA WEEK”

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join in welcoming the members of this fine organization to our city and to thank them for the many contributions they make to our community and to our many aspiring and talented residents.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of August, 2011.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

