

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa, Florida takes pride in recognizing the rich history of Ybor City, founded in 1886, and its significance as Tampa's National Historic Landmark District, which was designated by the National Parks Service in August 1974; and

WHEREAS, currently 84 of Ybor City's buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and 956 buildings were deemed of historic significance by the National Park Service in December 1990 when it was also noted that Ybor City contained the largest collection of buildings related to the cigar industry in the United States, and possibly the world; and

WHEREAS, the architectural styles and elements of the historic buildings in Ybor City, including hundreds of cigar factories and housing for the workers called casitas, commercial buildings, and ethnic clubs organized by the immigrants, including Italians, Germans, Cubans, and Spaniards, have created a unique landscape and ambience throughout its 125 year history and are representative of Tampa's cultural diversity; and

WHEREAS, many of Ybor City's iconic buildings and homes were designed by such noted architects as M. Leo Elliot, Francis J. Kennard, B.F. Marcos, and B.C. Bonfoey, and local masons and craftsmen demonstrated their cultural influences that included Roman, Cuban, Spanish, Classical Greek, and Moorish styles; and

WHEREAS, the Ybor City Museum Society has created special programs and an exhibit with the theme *Ybor City Architecture: Our Stories* located at the Ybor City Museum State Park to celebrate the district's historic buildings, the people who designed and built them, the genealogy of those who have inhabited them, their transformation over time, and the personality they give to the 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 October 21-29, 2011 as

"YBOR CITY ARCHITECTURE WEEK"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents and visitors to join in me in recognizing the importance that Ybor City's buildings and architectural elements have played in creating the district's unique character and personality.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 20th day of October, 2011.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor