

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, hosted by Gujarati Samaj of Tampa Bay, the India Festival is an annual event that celebrates the rich heritage of two of the greatest nations, India and the United States of America, and its mission is to create awareness of the Indian culture; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the largest Indian cultural events in the United States, the first India Festival was held in 1988 at the University of South Florida's Sun Dome and attracted over 3,000 people, and in recent years the event has surpassed 10,000 in attendance; and

**WHEREAS**, the American citizens of the Indian community have greatly influenced the development of the Tampa Bay area by their generous philanthropy, cultural promotions, and active participation in educational, scientific, and health fields, and the India Festival provides the opportunity to showcase these contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, this 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Tampa Bay India Festival will provide an opportunity for local residents to explore, learn and experience Indian culture through art, music, jewelry, clothing, artifacts, and authentic Indian food, and will feature dancing and singing competitions, a fashion show, and over 150 vendor booths; and

**WHEREAS**, all proceeds from the Festival will benefit the youth of the community by promoting cultural activities and providing local college and university teams the opportunity to participate in Art and Dance competitions; and

**WHEREAS**, the event will be held on November 12, 2011 at the Florida State Fair Grounds – Expo Hall, and the City of Tampa is honored to join in this celebration which further exemplifies the diversity of our community's culture.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim November 12, 2011 as

## ***"INDIA FESTIVAL DAY"***

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join in participating in this day of festivities and activities and thank the organizers and sponsors for providing this opportunity to celebrates the rich Indian culture.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

