

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing those individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens, Louise Lykes Ferguson is one such person; and

**WHEREAS**, born to Howell Tyson and Stella Lykes on May 28, 1912, Mrs. Lykes Ferguson grew up in the Ballast Point area and is a life long Tampanian; her heritage is part of one of Tampa's founding families, beginning in the 1870's with the Lykes family cattle ranch in Hernando County, starting the first school in Spring Hill, and incorporating Lykes Brothers in Tampa in 1910, a corporation that would have interests in land, citrus, phosphate mining, timber, sugarcane, cattle and meat processing, banking, the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company, and Lykes Insurance Company; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Ferguson has the distinction of being part of the inaugural class of Plant High School, and went on to graduate in 1932 from Pine Manor College in Boston, Massachusetts, and named valedictorian at both schools; and

**WHEREAS**, A pillar of our community, Mrs. Ferguson is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Tampa, a founding member of the Chiselers of the University of Tampa, established in 1959 and one of the oldest preservation organizations in the country, a member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, the Junior League of Tampa where she received the Sustainer of the Year award, the Founders Garden Club Circle of the Tampa Garden Club, and has helped to mold the David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts into the renowned facility it is today with her dedication and leadership by serving on the Board of Trustees from its inception until recently and currently a member of the President's Council; the over 1,000 seat Louise Lykes Ferguson Hall theater at the center is deservingly named for her; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is pleased to join her daughter Stella F. Thayer, son Howell L. Ferguson, six grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, family, friends, and the community in wishing Louise Lykes Ferguson a very Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 28, 2012 as

## **"LOUISE LYKES FERGUSON DAY"**

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating her on this significant milestone, thanking her for the many contributions and dedication to the citizens of our community over the years, and wishing her continued happiness.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2012.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor