Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women will host the 2012 Gourmet Gents "20th Annual Culinary Fanfare" event at Higgins Hall in Tampa, Florida on Sunday, June 24, 2012; and

WHEREAS, organized in Tampa in 1992, this event offers an opportunity for fellowship and the sampling of great food, and serves as a fundraiser for the Coalition's Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships to deserving African-American female scholars in our community; and

WHEREAS, due to the commitment and dedication of volunteer chefs, the Coalition has been able to provide at least \$1,000 in scholarships in the past five years for eight students to attend the college, university, or trade school of their choice, thereby providing life-changing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, food will be prepared by over 100 celebrity and gourmet chefs, ranging from business leaders to elected officials from the Tampa Bay area, and participants will be able to enjoy their samples alongside those from local participating restaurants; and

WHEREAS, to commemorate its 20th Anniversary, the Coalition has created a Gourmet Gents Cookbook, which will feature one-of-a-kind recipes from participants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is pleased to join in thanking and congratulating the Tampa Bay Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. and all those who have been involved in its history and growth, on the 20th Anniversary celebration of this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim June 24, 2012 as

"GOURMET GENTS DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and call on all members of the community to join me in recognizing this worthwhile event, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, participants and volunteers for their commitment to providing scholarships that assist worthy students.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 22nd day of June, 2012.

Bob Buchhou