

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, Hispanic men and women have played a significant role in the development and progress of the United States since October 12, 1492 when Christopher Columbus discovered America; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic explorers, pioneers and settlers established missions and settlements that became some of America's most important urban and cultural centers; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics have greatly enhanced our way of life in the fields of science, technology, politics, the arts, and other important areas, and continue to meet their challenges and responsibilities with dignity and a creative spirit; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans, because of their energetic commitment to hard work and their determination to participate fully in the American dream, provide strength and inspiration to us all; and

WHEREAS, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. was organized 33 years ago for the purpose of preserving and promoting our diverse Hispanic culture and to unite the voices of the growing Hispanic population in our area. With the help of public and private partners, they continue with this mission and the tradition of recognizing those men and women in our community who represent excellence by their outstanding achievements, endeavors, and contributions, enriching the lives of other Hispanics in our community; and

WHEREAS, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. will be kicking-off this season of recognition, along with the CENTRO Tampa Festival del SABOR, on Saturday, September 15, 2012 at Centennial Park in historic Ybor City. This day-long celebration of Tampa Bay's Hispanic culture will include food, music and art along with representatives from different countries who will share their cultural pride and talents through dancing and other individual expressions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the months of September, October, and November 2012 as

"HISPANIC HERITAGE SEASON"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to take part in the activities honoring the proud history of Hispanic people and to congratulate Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. for their many contributions to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 31st day of August, 2012.

Bab Buchhow

Mayor