

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, held on the third Saturday every May, **National Kids to Parks Day** was established by the National Park Trust in an effort to connect the youth of America with nature and encourage them to explore outdoors, especially the parks in their communities; and

WHEREAS, exercise and healthy life decisions are of the utmost importance, especially today when nearly one in three children is overweight or obese, and high blood pressure, elevated levels of cholesterol and type 2 diabetes affecting our nation's youth are on the rise; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department stresses the significance of promoting healthy lifestyles and the importance of committing to exercise at a young age, and the parks and recreation facilities in the city of Tampa provide opportunities for a safe and beautiful environment in which to develop healthier, more active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa, along with many cities across the United States of America, are committing to the motto "**Active Kids are Healthy Kids**" and encouraging its citizens to explore the wide range of recreational activities available to them, especially through the Parks and Recreation Department, where a variety of fun exercise can be enjoyed by the entire family; and

WHEREAS, more than 260 cities across the country, including Tampa, Florida, have pledged to support programs to get more kids to parks and promote healthier lifestyles, and the National Park Trust is working in collaboration with First Lady Michelle Obama's "**Let's Move Cities and Towns**" initiative to create systematic changes to combat the effects of diabetes and obesity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is recognizing National Kids to Parks Day to help encourage children's appreciation for the outdoors and recreational activity, and promote the abundance of outdoor activities in our 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 May 18, 2013 as

"NATIONAL KIDS TO PARKS DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in attending the beautiful parks in the city of Tampa and promoting healthy, active lifestyles, especially among the youth in our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 9th day of May, 2013.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

