

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the month of February is recognized nationwide as **Black History Month**, and people of all ethnicities and nationalities will participate in cultural programs at schools, churches, government buildings, businesses, and community centers to celebrate the many great contributions African-Americans have made to our country and its history; and

**WHEREAS**, the celebration of Black History Month was initiated in 1926 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life, to expose all citizens to the rich heritage of African Diaspora and the historic African-American struggle, which is a testament to the triumph of the human spirit; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of Black historical study is to affirm the humanity of a people once denied citizenship and remind ourselves that our history as a community and as a nation is woven together by our common humanity and common quest for an even greater America; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month provides us all with the opportunity to transcend stereotypes and appreciate Americans' contributions to science, literature, architecture, industry, music, philosophy, religion, education, and others; and

**WHEREAS**, the **City of Tampa Black History Committee** was established in 1988 and is dedicated to promoting African-American history and scholastic achievement by implementing programs that inform people of all ethnic backgrounds about the rich cultural and historic aspects of black Americans and people of African descent throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the **26<sup>th</sup> Annual City of Tampa Black History Celebration** will be held at the Tampa Convention Center on February 14, 2014 with the theme ***"Determined to Make a Difference: Now and in the Future."*** The inspirational celebration will include keynote speaker Gerald Honeywell, retired City of Tampa Police Major and well-respected community leader, acknowledgement of individuals and organizations that exemplify the concepts of self-determination and social empowerment in the Tampa community and throughout the nation, recognition of several City employees for their dedication to our community, entertainment, and a Black History Expo.

**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 month of February, 2014 as

## ***"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"***

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in participating in the various events and celebrations that honor this annual tradition.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2014.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor