

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride* is defined as the positive stance against discrimination and violence toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, to promote their self-affirmation, dignity, and equality rights, increase their visibility as a social group, build community, and celebrate sexual diversity and gender variance; and

**WHEREAS**, cities around the globe celebrate LGBT Pride with rallies, marches, parades, commemorations, community days, concerts and large festivals, and during this time diversity and the positive impact LGBT individuals have on the world is celebrated, and we are reminded that every generation has brought us closer to true equality, and recent achievements confirm that people never stop striving towards absolute equality for everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, individually and collectively, members of Tampa's LGBT community contribute greatly to neighborhood revitalization, economic vitality, arts and culture, and the social fabric of our city, county, state, and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, ranked as the top big city in the state of Florida in the Municipal Equality Index published by the Human Rights Campaign and one of the first cities in the region to have a domestic partnership registry, the City of Tampa prides itself on its inclusiveness and it protects its residents from discrimination and harassment based on actual or perceived race, color, sex, religion, disability, age, marital status, place of birth, families with children, sexual orientation or national origin, and is committed to continued social progress and the cause of human rights, celebrating the great diversity of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa Pride, Inc. is a non-profit corporation and its membership includes business owners, community leaders and individuals who promote and provide a safe, tolerant, and welcoming focal point for LGBT individuals from around the region, state and nation, and are committed to demonstrating diversity as a community through celebration and an annual festival; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa Pride, Inc. will celebrate diversity, social progress, and the cause of human rights through multiple events March 26-28, 2015, which includes the inaugural Tampa Pride Festival and Parade on Saturday, March 28, 2015 in Historic Ybor City.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim March 28, 2015 as

## **“TAMPA PRIDE DAY”**

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join in ending prejudice everywhere it may exist, respect the rights of all people, and celebrate the diversity and richness of our city by supporting and participating in the Tampa Pride Festival and Parade.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor