

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the Tampa, Florida area is well-known for its diversity and uniqueness in people, places, and businesses, and they play an important role in the vitality of our city - serving as leaders in our community that is critical to Tampa's success; and

WHEREAS, the individuals and businesses of the Tampa Bay area contribute to our cultural and enhance the quality of life in our neighborhoods by providing both residents and visitors with excellence, and by striving to make improvements to our community through the quality services they offer; and

WHEREAS, Creative Loafing, one of Tampa Bay's largest newspapers and an award-winning publication that is known for its commitment to the community, organized the first Best of the Bay event in 1990 to promote local people, places and businesses in the community and engage citizens in celebrating the many wonderful facets of the Tampa Bay area; and

WHEREAS, during this popular annual event, Tampa Bay residents take an active part in the Best of the Bay by voting in various categories that include People, Places, Politics, Food & Drink, Goods & Services, and Arts & Entertainment by going to www.cltampa.com/botb to select their favorites; and

WHEREAS, 2016 marks the Annual Best of the Bay's 26th Anniversary, and the event is coordinated, promoted and publicized by *Creative Loafing*, which highlights some of Tampa's best and provides the opportunity to put them in the spotlight; and

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, Creative Loafing will present over 300 awards to the Best of the Bay winners that were selected by the citizens at an Awards Party at The Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim September 2016 as

"BEST OF BAY MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join in the festivities by taking the opportunity to vote in the Best of the Bay event whereby acknowledging the best in our area and recognizing those that have made an impact on our community over the past year.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 31st day of August, 2016.

Brb Buchhon Mayor

