

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress has named the month of March as “**Women’s History Month**” in special recognition of the many contributions women have made to our country’s history and heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is proud to join in the nation’s celebration of “Women’s History Month” and this year’s theme, *Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business*, recognizes women who have shaped America’s history and its future through their leadership and contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, in keeping with the tradition of recognizing excellence and service to the City of Tampa, the *Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award* has been established to be given annually to a current or former City of Tampa female employee who is a pioneer in her profession or excels in a field or level where women are underrepresented, and has demonstrated outstanding commitment to her position and community involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award for 2017 is presented to **Regina McBride-Smith** in recognition of her commitment to the City of Tampa and her many efforts on behalf of the citizens of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Regina McBride-Smith, Parks & Recreation Team Supervisor II, began her career with the City of Tampa more than thirty years ago, and she is devoted to enhancing the quality of life for Tampa residents and visitors, especially the children. Regina consistently demonstrates superior leadership qualities, great enthusiasm and a determination to achieve excellence that others admire and emulate. Regina is well-known for her dedication to the youth of our community, and her involvement extends past her role with the City of Tampa by being active in outside professional organizations and athletic associations, resulting in an even greater positive impact for area children and families. She is the Founder and Director of *Trailblazers Youth Athletic Ministry*, a not-profit organization that provides opportunities for the youth of the Tampa Bay area to develop spiritual and athletic awareness and the organization provides full and partial scholarships to many future leaders, and she is a supporter of breast cancer survivors and she helps to provide meals to those in need. She has been recognized for her commitment to mentoring others, public service and community involvement with many honors including the prestigious *2016 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award*, and her dedication and commitment to the City of Tampa and community make her truly deserving of this honor; and

**WHEREAS**, this honoree will be officially recognized on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at the *Twenty-First Annual City of Tampa Women’s History Month Celebration* held at the Tampa Convention Center featuring keynote speaker Lynn Pippenger, former Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of Raymond James and the Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy at the University of South Florida is named in her honor.

**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 March 2017 as

## “WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in paying tribute to Regina McBride-Smith on her selection for this honor and to observe this month by paying special recognition in their own way to all women who have positively affected their lives.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

