

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa, Florida is proud to recognize those businesses and organizations who have made a mark in our city by their economic investment and involvement in the community, and Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, officially established on March 31, 1959, is one such organization; and

**WHEREAS**, originally opened as a brewery tour and garden with birds and wildlife, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay has grown to include a 300-acre world-renowned adventure park, with more than 200 species of animals, thrilling rides, themed areas and attractions, animal habitats, and annual events including a Food & Wine Festival, Summer Nights, Howl-O-Scream, and Christmas Town, and its sister attraction, Adventure Island, a popular water park; and

**WHEREAS**, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay is a corporate leader dedicated to the community by providing employment opportunities to thousands of residents, contributing substantially to the local economy, and the organization is well-known for its philanthropic endeavors that enhance the quality of life for Tampa Bay area residents and visitors, and for its environmental and wildlife conservation efforts including recycling and discontinuing the use of plastic bags, straws, and polystyrene from the park; and

**WHEREAS**, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay is dedicated to making a difference over the years including more than 280,000 students benefitting from its educational initiatives and through the Busch Gardens Summer Camp Program, inspiring the next generation of conservationists world-wide, and since 2012, nearly 2,500 wild animals have received a second chance at life with rehabilitation in the Busch Gardens Animal Care Center; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay is hosting its **60<sup>th</sup> Celebration Kickoff Event** on March 1, 2019, and the evening festivities include a live performance by The Florida Orchestra, a fireworks spectacle, food tasting, introduction of the new pin-trading initiative, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, the city of Tampa recognizes Busch Gardens Tampa Bay as one of our area's greatest assets and gratefully acknowledges the positive cultural, educational and economic impact it has on 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 March 2019 as

## ***"BUSCH GARDENS TAMPA BAY MONTH"***

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in acknowledging the many contributions Busch Gardens Tampa Bay has made to our community over the past 60 years.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2019.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor