

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the **General Federation of Woman's Clubs** (GFWC) was established April 24, 1890, when members of sixty-one woman's clubs around the United States of America met in New York to ratify its new constitution, and its motto "*Unity in Diversity*" emphasizes its ability to utilize the diversity of the members and their backgrounds to work toward a unified vision and purpose of enhancing their lives, and the lives of those around them; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the oldest and largest woman's organizations in the world, the GFWC has grown over the past 125 years with 3,200 clubs across the nation, and a dozen clubs globally, and its 104,000 members annually donate more than \$47 million and almost six million volunteer hours to over 136,000 programs and projects benefiting their communities, and its Community Service Programs including *Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach* and *Public Issues* were established to guide the member clubs with setting goals and in shaping local programs and projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Woman's Club was founded in 1900 as a cultural and social organization whose members met for literary discussions at the Tampa Bay Hotel, now the University of Tampa, and in 1913, it became the **General Federation of Woman's Clubs (GFWC) Tampa Woman's Club** when it was accepted into the national organization, GFWC, and the state affiliate, GFWC Florida Federation of Woman's Clubs; and

**WHEREAS**, GFWC Tampa Woman's Club is committed to enhancing the Tampa Bay community through volunteerism and donations to local charities, and over the years it has helped to establish the first Tampa Public Library, assisted Tampa General Hospital with purchases of specialized equipment, and it continues to support military and veteran organizations, provide scholarships, host events for special needs children, work with many organizations including MacDonal Training Center, Reach Out to Cancer Kids Camp, Metropolitan Ministries Partnership School, and has recently become involved in the fight against human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of **General Federation of Woman's Clubs' 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**, GFWC Tampa Woman's Club will host a celebration at its beautiful location on Bayshore Boulevard, and the event features exhibits that share the organization's history and service, and the opportunity for reminiscing on all that has been accomplished over the past 125 years; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim Friday, April 24, 2015 as

## **"GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMAN'S CLUBS DAY"**

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join me in thanking the GFWC Tampa Woman's Club members for their dedication to improving the community and the lives of its citizens, and in congratulating them on this 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary milestone.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor