

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, held in Tampa, Florida, the *17th Annual Mayor's Latino's Unidos Luncheon* showcases the growing presence and economic impact of Latinos in our city, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, the **City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council** is hosting this event on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at the Tampa Convention Center featuring keynote speaker the Honorable Mel Martinez, Chairman of the Southeast United States and Latin America for JPMorgan Chase and Company, and former United States Senator representing Florida; and

WHEREAS, Matilda Martinez Garcia is the only charter member of the City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council that has continually served since it was founded in 1983, and the organization has established the *Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award* in honor of her over thirty years of dedication and service; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Latino's Unidos Luncheon will also include the presentation of the *Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award* to Dr. Luz Paredes Lono, a retired college educator in recognition of her community service, commitment to education and dedication to raising scholarship funding for Tampa Bay area Latino students, and for her outstanding leadership in Tampa, especially for her devotion in preserving Hispanic history, heritage and culture through her work with local organizations including the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council, Hispanic Professional Women's Association, Pan American University Women's Club, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc., and the Peruvian Club of Tampa; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds from the Annual Mayor's Latino's Unidos Luncheon assist Hispanic students in financial need, and the University of South Florida, Hillsborough Community College, and the University of Tampa have benefited from the efforts of this Council through the endowment of \$961,000 in scholarships; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics have greatly enhanced our way of life in the fields of science, technology, government, business, education, the arts, and many other important areas, and Hispanic men and women have served a significant role in the development and progress of the United States, the state of Florida, and the city of Tampa; 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 Thursday, May 14, 2015 as

"LATINOS UNIDOS DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, in honor of this initiative and the Hispanic community's commitment to excellence in education, and ask that all citizens of Tampa support this occasion.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 14th day of May, 2015.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor