

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the Holocaust resulted in the deliberate murder of millions of people prior to and during World War II including one third of the Jewish people, along with countless members of other minorities such as Roma and Sinti citizens, ethnic Poles, people with disabilities, homosexuals, and political and religious opponents; and

**WHEREAS**, reaffirming the United Nation's *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, which proclaims that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, religion or other status, the United Nations General Assembly designated January 27<sup>th</sup> as an annual **International Holocaust Remembrance Day** in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and it is a day of global observance. The significance of the date commemorates the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp where more than one million people died by Soviet troops seventy years ago on January 27, 1945; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations Outreach Program, along with the history of the Holocaust, seeks to remind the world of the lessons to be learned in order to help prevent future acts of genocide and offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies and governments, and it has partnered with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to make a film resource and educational package available to educators around the world in all United Nations official languages; and

**WHEREAS**, in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, the 2016 theme for International Holocaust Remembrance Day is ***Don't Stand By***, a reminder that during this dark period, a vast majority, whether from fear or indifference, stood by silently thus enabling the Holocaust, and it serves as guiding force for future generations to not turn a blind eye when others face prejudice or victimization. As spoken by Elie Wiesel, awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, *Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented*; and

**WHEREAS**, in observance of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Consular Corps of Tampa Bay, in cooperation with the United Nations Association of Tampa and Holocaust Museum of Florida, will host a public program at the Italian Club of Tampa in Historic Ybor City, Florida on Sunday, January 24, 2016, and the event will include a candle-lighting ceremony, and reflections and presentations by guest speakers; 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 January 27, 2016 as

## ***“INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY”***

in the City of Tampa, Florida in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of the City of Tampa should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor