

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. is an organization devoted to preserving and promoting Tampa's diverse Hispanic culture, and for over 35 years, together with corporate partners, has honored those men and women who represent excellence by their outstanding achievements, endeavors and contributions and that have helped to enrich the lives of other Hispanics in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. will again celebrate its Annual Hispanic Gala with the presentation of the **2016 Hispanic Woman of the Year Award** to a person chosen to be honored, a well-known individual admired and respected for her commitment to others, and who has dedicated her life to promoting and preserving the Hispanic culture and traditions through her community and civic service; and

**WHEREAS**, born in Cuba, this year's honoree is **Patsy Sanchez**, who came to the United States at age thirteen and thereafter attended the University of South Florida where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Spanish Literature and her Master's Degree in Spanish, and she currently serves as the Director of Diversity and Inclusion and also the Latino Scholarship Program for the University of South Florida (USF); and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Sanchez consistently demonstrates her commitment to the Tampa Bay community and to education through her leadership and mentoring of others, especially students, and is dedicated to assisting and guiding educational opportunities and scholarships for Latino students, and she accomplishes this through successfully partnering with local, state and national organizations, foundations and corporations and with the *Undocumented Scholarship Program* at USF, an initiative she established for undocumented students or the children of undocumented parents. Ms. Sanchez is actively involved in leadership roles with numerous organizations including chairing the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council, serving on the Board of the Hillsborough County Hispanic Educators Task Force, and volunteering with Eckerd Kids; and

**WHEREAS**, recognized by the community for her service and many contributions, Ms. Sanchez has been featured in local and national journals for her research and efforts on Latino student success, she received the University of South Florida's *Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award* twice and its *Hispanic Heritage Service Award*, selected as Spanish language publication *Siete Dias' Hispana Ejemplar*, and she was honored with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Council's *Hispanic Advocate Award*; and

**WHEREAS**, well-known in the Tampa Bay area for her commitment to the Hispanic community, education and children, Ms. Sanchez serves as an inspirational role model to others and certainly deserves being named the **2016 Hispanic Woman of the Year**.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, October 8, 2016 as

**PATSY SANCHEZ,  
HISPANIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR DAY**

in the city of Tampa, Florida and call upon all residents to join me in recognizing, commending and thanking her for all she contributes to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

