

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, established in 1984, the **City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council** is a group of dedicated Hispanic individuals who are appointed by the Mayor to serve as a liaison between City government and the Hispanic community, and are a forum for those who need to voice their concerns to community leaders and City officials, and they accomplish their goals and objectives through programs and activities; and

WHEREAS, an annual City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council event, the **Mayor's Latino's Unidos Luncheon** showcases the growing presence and economic impact of Latinos in our city, state and nation, and celebrates enhancements Hispanics have made to our way of life in science, technology, government, business, education, the arts and in so many other important areas, and proceeds from the event have assisted Hispanic students in financial need over the years through scholarship endowments totaling \$1,494,347; and

WHEREAS, the 19th annual Mayor's Latino's Unidos Luncheon on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at the Hilton Downtown Tampa Hotel highlights special keynote speaker **Richard Gonzmart**, President of the Columbia Restaurant Group that includes the Historic Columbia Restaurant, well-known community leader and a strong supporter of Latino initiatives including generously providing educational opportunities for college students; and

WHEREAS, the late Matilda Martinez Garcia (1919-2016) was a charter member of the City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic advisory Council who had served since its founding, and the organization established the **Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award** in honor of her more than three decades of dedication and service, and it is awarded annually at the Latino's Unidos Luncheon to an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the Hispanic community and the people of Tampa; and

WHEREAS, this year, the 2017 Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award is presented to Anthony (Tony) Morejon, respected Hispanic Affairs Liaison for Hillsborough County, community leader, and advocate for Latino issues and initiatives. Mr. Morejon hosts "*Informes Latinos*," a Spanish language television program and co-host of "*Vistas*," an award-winning television program dedicated to showcasing Hillsborough County's Hispanic and Latin influences. His commitment to the Latino community includes frequently consulting with agencies and organizations on behalf of Hispanic concerns, he developed several Spanish Child Safety Seminars and instrumental in the implementation of the first Spanish-language Hurricane and Disaster Seminar. Mr. Morejon serves in leadership capacities with many civic and professional organizations including League of Latin American Citizens, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Tampa Bay, Latino Coalition, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials and serves as Chairman for the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Advisory Board. Mr. Morejon is well-known throughout the community for his outstanding leadership devotion in preserving Hispanic history, heritage and culture, and his efforts have been recognized throughout the community including being named Tampa Hispanic Heritage's *Hispanic Man of the Year for Public Services*, Hillsborough County's *Hispanic Man of the Year*, and he is an Honorary Deputy with the HCSO.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 17, 2017 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 17th day of May, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor