

# In Memoriam



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing those individuals whose dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens. One of these individuals was **Dr. Luz Paredes Lono**, a beloved and respected Educator and Community Leader who passed away on Sunday, January 21, 2018, at age 72; and

**WHEREAS**, born on August 14, 1945 in Lima, Peru, Dr. Lono received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Literature from the prestigious Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, and after graduation relocated to the United States of America where she earned a Master's Degree from Columbia University and her Doctorate Degree in Linguistics from New York University, and thereafter made Tampa, Florida her home; and

**WHEREAS**, with almost five decades devoted to teaching and encouraging others to grow intellectually, Dr. Lono was committed to her students and colleagues, and she was an exceptional mentor and teacher serving at Hillsborough Community College at the Ybor City Campus where she taught Spanish and was the Director of English for Academic Purposes, and she was known for her patience, understanding and genuine caring; and

**WHEREAS**, setting an example for others, Dr. Lono served tirelessly in leadership roles in many organizations, especially for the benefit of the Hispanic community including the City of Tampa's Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council where she served as Chair of the Education Committee and the Mayor's Public Forum, the Pan American University Women's Club, Hispanic Professional Women's Association, Peruvian Club of Tampa, and Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. (THHI) where she had been a board member since 1992, served as its President for several terms and she was committed to its programs including the annual Hispanic Man and Woman of the Year Gala and the Essay Contest that encouraged students to write about Hispanic history and culture; and

**WHEREAS**, well-known for her passion and commitment to Latin traditions and the celebration of its culture, to education, and the community, Dr. Lono was honored many times including receiving the City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council's *Matilda Martinez Garcia Leadership Award* and the Ybor City Museum Society's *Adela Gonzmart Legacy Award*; and

**WHEREAS**, known as an inspiration to all who knew her, she will be forever remembered for her deep love of family and friends, her integrity, strength, generosity and patience, and although we are grieved at the loss of this extraordinary citizen, her legacy will continue to live on through the impact she had on our community and in all those whose lives she has touched and encouraged, especially her beloved students whose lives she greatly influenced.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby urge all citizens to join me in publicly expressing sorrow and heartfelt appreciation to the Dr. Luz Paredes Lono Family, her husband Jim, sister Maria, brother Jose, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their many cherished memories and the impact of her life on our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018.



*Bob Buckhorn*  
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Mayor