

**Presented to  
Pride South Florida**

**WHEREAS,** on Saturday and Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, Pride South Florida will host Pride Fort Lauderdale at Holiday Park and War Memorial Auditorium in the City of Fort Lauderdale; and

**WHEREAS,** the festival is open to all people as we commemorate the history and progress of people belonging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community; and

**WHEREAS,** this event represents the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the pride festival in South Florida after starting amid the events in Miami-Dade County in 1977 involving Anita Bryant and her attempt to repeal an ordinance protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination; and

**WHEREAS,** the Pride Fort Lauderdale festival also commemorates the Stonewall riots that occurred in New York City in June 1969 which many credit with having launched the national movement for LGBT rights; and

**WHEREAS,** recently released U.S. Census data revealed that Fort Lauderdale is the city with the highest concentration of same-sex couple households in the nation; and

**WHEREAS,** the greater Fort Lauderdale area annually welcomes more than 1.3 million LGBT visitors, bringing in over \$1 billion into our local economy as well as helping support hundreds of LGBT-owned businesses; and

**WHEREAS,** this community is home to one of the nation's largest Metropolitan Community Church congregations, the Sunshine Cathedral; the Stonewall National Museum and Archives, which is one of the largest and only permanent spaces in the United States devoted to the display of exhibitions relating to LGBT culture and history; and the World AIDS Museum, the only museum in the world dedicated to tell the story of the disease and those who have been affected by it; and

**WHEREAS,** the past year has been especially significant for LGBT equal rights in light of the U.S. Supreme Court decision which struck down the federal prohibition on same-sex marriage; and

**WHEREAS,** Pride South Florida reaches out to the community with functions throughout the year to promote and engage in educational, civic and cultural activities in order to enrich the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and the community as a whole.

**NOW THEREFORE, WE,** as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim **Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, and Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014** as:

**PRIDE FORT LAUDERDALE DAYS**

in the City of Fort Lauderdale and urge all citizens, interested groups and organizations to join in these activities.

**DATED this,** the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2014.

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**Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler**

