

**Presented to
Laura Bryant Martin
59 Years of Service in the Broward County Public School District**

- WHEREAS,** Laura Martin is a retired educator from the Broward County Public Schools after serving 59 years in the district; and
- WHEREAS,** Laura Martin so loves the field of education that she returned to the schoolhouse and is currently serving as a guidance counselor at Dillard Elementary; and
- WHEREAS,** Laura began her illustrious career at Blanche Ely High School as the Choral Music Teacher under the supervision of Principal Blanche G. Ely; and
- WHEREAS,** she went on to become a guidance counselor at Hollywood Hills High and Assistant Principal at South Plantation High. While serving as Assistant Principal, she was twice recognized as Administrator of the Year; and
- WHEREAS,** Laura understands the need for community service and giving back, she started the "Young Pacesetters of Broward County" – a group of young teens ages 14 to 18 who were determined to make their mark in the world and set the pace for others; and
- WHEREAS,** Laura has a long list of achievements including her 1993 appointment to the Nominee Qualifications Review Committee for District 10 by the late Governor Lawton Chiles; she has served as Vice President of the Board of Directors of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the YMCA, the founding President of the Coalition of 100 Black Women of Fort Lauderdale, charter member of Upsilon Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and has served on the community advisory board for the Junior League; and
- WHEREAS,** Laura Martin has numerous awards for her outstanding service which include the Bi-Centennial Service Award (City of Fort Lauderdale), Humanitarian of the Year (The Links, Inc.), Woman of the Year (WEDR/FOXY Radio Station), Broward County Fair - First Ladies Award and the Mildred Hastings Tenacity Award (Congressman Alcee Hasting); and
- WHEREAS,** Laura Martin believes in pushing her students beyond the highest bar of excellence, she has helped them to understand the value of education and encouraged them to not only make a living, but to make a worthwhile life; and
- WHEREAS,** Laura Martin's thirst for education is evident; she instilled in her students an appetite for knowledge and a belief that through rigorous and attentive learning they can make a difference.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim **May 6, 2014** as:

Laura Bryant Martin Day

in the City of Fort Lauderdale and do thank Ms. Martin for her outstanding commitment to public education, and do further thank her for completing 59 Years of service to our children, and do commend Ms. Martin on her decision to come out of retirement to once again give her valuable time and experience as a guidance counselor to the children of Dillard Elementary School.

DATED this, the 6th day of May 2014.

Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

