

# City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe  
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Linda Piper is retiring today after providing the City of Gainesville 30 years of dedication, hard work, enthusiasm and a commitment to quality and customer service; and

WHEREAS, throughout her tenure, Linda has exhibited the highest qualities of leadership in all she did, earning her the City's 2013 At-Large Leadership Award. For over 20 years, she coordinated both the Downtown Festival and Art Show and the Hoggetowne Medieval Faire with only the direct support of a part-time Entertainment Coordinator and a team of Interns. Managing thousands of logistical details, hundreds of artists, vendors and operations personnel (as well as crowds in the tens of thousands) at the events, she was both the calm and consummate professional, as well as a gracious and charismatic host; and

WHEREAS, Linda also demonstrated exceptional leadership as an employee of the City, believing deeply in the value of employee recognition and team spirit. For years she was a driving force in the coordination of the Employee Rally, Employee of the Year Award, United Way Campaign, Annual Photo Contest and Employee Talent Show. On the one-on-one level, she never hesitated to offer to lend a fellow employee a hand when the need arose or help solve any issue where she could; and

WHEREAS, Linda's continuous commitment to "give back" resulted in great contributions to the community and its citizens. She served for years on the board of the Arts Association of Alachua County (who founded The Doris) as the City Liaison. She annually lectured at the University of Florida College of Health and Human Performance. She actively mentored the Thornebrook Art Festival and Ocala Fine Arts Festival, as well as provided her expertise for planning United Downtown events and the Tioga Winter Art Festival; and


WHEREAS, in spite of three decades of long work hours, the high stress of producing two of the City's largest events and a full plate of civic commitments, Linda raised a beautiful and devoted family and continues to be the epitome of a loving wife and mother, probably her greatest accomplishment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim June 2, 2016 as

## *Linda Piper Day*

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in recognizing Linda and expressing our appreciation for her overall dedication to the arts in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, A.D., 2016.



Lauren Poe  
Mayor

