

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Gainesville Cultural Affairs Board's Business Arts, Individual Arts and Jennie Kest Lifetime Arts Awards recognize those individuals and businesses that have made significant contributions to the advancement of the arts in our community; and

WHEREAS, Steven Butler and The Actors' Warehouse, the Bulla Cubana Project Team and Jerry Uelsmann have each made a significant impact in our community through important, influential and lasting contributions to arts and culture, through a body of work, over a number of years; and

WHEREAS, Steven Butler founded The Actors' Warehouse in 2011 with a mission to entertain, inspire and foster critical thinking through the performing arts while bringing diversity programming, social justice and public health to the forefront. In less than a decade, Mr. Butler, his company and productions have gone on to win numerous regional awards for excellence. In 2017, The Actors' Warehouse production of "Tshepang" was invited to represent the United States at the International Amateur Theatre Festival (Mondial du Théâtre) in Monaco, garnering recognition to this important organization and shining light on Gainesville's rich artistic landscape; and

WHEREAS, the "Bulla Cubana" project was a cultural initiative that united all of the major arts organizations of the Gainesville community around one purpose- to cultivate the free flow of arts and culture, ideas and inspiration between the United States and Cuba. Celebrating the rich culture of this country ninety miles south of the United States, over 15 arts presenters and numerous supporting businesses produced three months of programs and events of the highest caliber, maintaining a dedication to young artists, a commitment to all forms of the visual and performing arts, a passion for contemporary innovation and an enthusiasm for providing cultural diverse programming and exhibits. The Bulla Cubana Project Team embodied the power of collaboration and the joy achieved by enriching one's community through the arts; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Uelsmann is a world-renowned photographer and a community treasure. Mr. Uelsmann is most known for his black and white photography created with film and darkrooms, classic silverprint materials and processes. While serving as a member of the faculty at the University of Florida, he simultaneously achieved fame in the international art world. Over the last 50 years, his work has been exhibited in more than 100 individual shows in the United States and abroad. His photographs are in the permanent collections of museums worldwide including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Chicago Art Institute, the National Museum of American Art, The Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Galleries of Canada, Australia, and Scotland, the National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo and many more. In addition to possessing consummate skill and artistry, Mr. Uelsmann has a warm-spirited, fun-loving personality which makes everyone feel at ease. For all this and more, he stands as a giant in Gainesville's pantheon of artists.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim Thursday, March 1, 2018 as

*Steven Butler and The Actors' Warehouse, the Bulla Cubana
Project Team and Jerry Uelsmann Day*

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in recognizing Steven Butler and The Actors' Warehouse, the Bulla Cubana Project Team and Jerry Uelsmann in expressing our appreciation for their 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 31st day of January, A.D., 2018.



Lauren Poe
Mayor