31) Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, seven miles east of downtown Tampa, is on a 37-acre site. Designated a Federal Indian Reservation, it includes 1,800 gaming machines, 50 poker tables, two restaurants, a food court, Olympic sized swimming pool, a spa, three bars, sports' bar and 12-story hotel.

32) In 1908, nurse Clara Frye turned her home into a clinic for the local African American community. After lobbying City Hall, the Clara Frye Negro Hospital opened its doors in 1923. In 1930, the city took over its management and Frye continued her work at the hospital.

33) A prominent attorney in the late 1800s, Col. Hugh MacFarlane was one of the original developers of West Tampa.

34) Tampa Theatre opened October 15, 1926. The Theatre in Florida Mediterranean style was designed by internationally recognized John Eberson. The Tampa Theatre was acquired by the City of Tampa in 1976 and declared a landmark in 1988.

35) The annual Tampa tradition put on by Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla and the City of Tampa, began in 1904. The celebration is centered on the fictional pirate, Jose Gaspar, who terrorized Florida's coastal waters in the early 19th century.

36) Dick A. Greco, Jr. served on the Tampa City Council from 1963 until he became mayor in 1967. He served as Mayor again from 1995 - 2003.

37) Tampa Bay Devil Rays were established by Major League Baseball on March 9, 1995. The team plays at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg.

38) Baseball legend, Babe Ruth, was born February 6, 1895 and played for the Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees and the Boston Braves. Babe Ruth hit his longest home run in Tampa at Plant Field on April 4, 1919.

39) Lee Roy Selmon was the first selection in the NFL draft by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and was inducted into the NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1995.

40) Lowry Park Zoo, first established in the 1930s, now has more than 1600 species on 41 acres.

41) Goody Goody Restaurant opened in 1925 on Florida Ave, and closed in 2005.

42) Captain Ben T. Davis was responsible for the nine and a half mile long Davis Causeway, now called the Courtney Campbell Causeway. The bridge was completed in 1934.

43) Commissioned in 1927 by Josiah Richardson, a local land developer, the Sulphur Springs Water Tower served as a beacon for the once popular resort area that focused around the natural bubbling sulphur water springs.

44) In the 1950s, Moses White was a successful restaurant owner on Central Avenue. White was also a revered citizen and a spokesperson for the African American community. In 2001, Main Street was renamed Moses White Boulevard.

45) The Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center was built in 1987 and is the largest performing arts hall in the Southeast and is consistently ranked as one of the top ten best performing arts centers in the nation.

46) Mildred "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias was named Woman Athlete of the First Half of the 20th Century. In 1949, Babe Zaharias purchased the golf course, which is currently located in Forest Hills, and later died of cancer in 1956 in Galveston, Texas. In 1974, the City of Tampa took over the Golf Course and named it the Babe Zaharias Golf Course.

47) Once an orange grove, the University of South Florida main campus was established in 1956. USF Sarasota/Manatee opened in 1975 and USF Lakeland opened recently in 1988.

48) An Ybor City native, Nick Nuccio started his political career as a City Council member in 1929, the year of the Stock Market crash. He served on City Council until 1936 and was elected as a Hillsborough County Commissioner until he was elected as Mayor in 1956.

49) Tampa International Airport opened in 1971 and in 2003 was voted best airport in the United States and third best in the world by Conde Nast Traveler Magazine.

50) Legends Field is Spring Training Home of the New York Yankees and Home of the Tampa Yankees.

51) Ms. Freedman served on City Council from 1974 and then as Council Chair from 1983 - 1986. She completed the remaining term of Bob Martinez who resigned to successfully campaign for Governor of Florida. When Ms. Freedman took the oath of office on July 16, 1986, she became Tampa's first woman mayor. After completing the remainder of Martinez's term, Freedman was twice elected Mayor of Tampa.

52) Belmont Heights Little League were participants in the World Series of Little League Baseball in 1973, 1975, 1980 and 1981. Some Belmont Heights Little Leaguers, turned Major Leaguers are Gary Sheffield and Dwight "Doc" Gooden.

53) As shown on Tampa's city seal, the City of Tampa was organized under a special act of the Florida Legislature on July 15, 1887. The seal is viewed as the symbol of Tampa city government.

54) Busch Gardens Tampa Bay opened in 1959 and is home to over 2700animals.

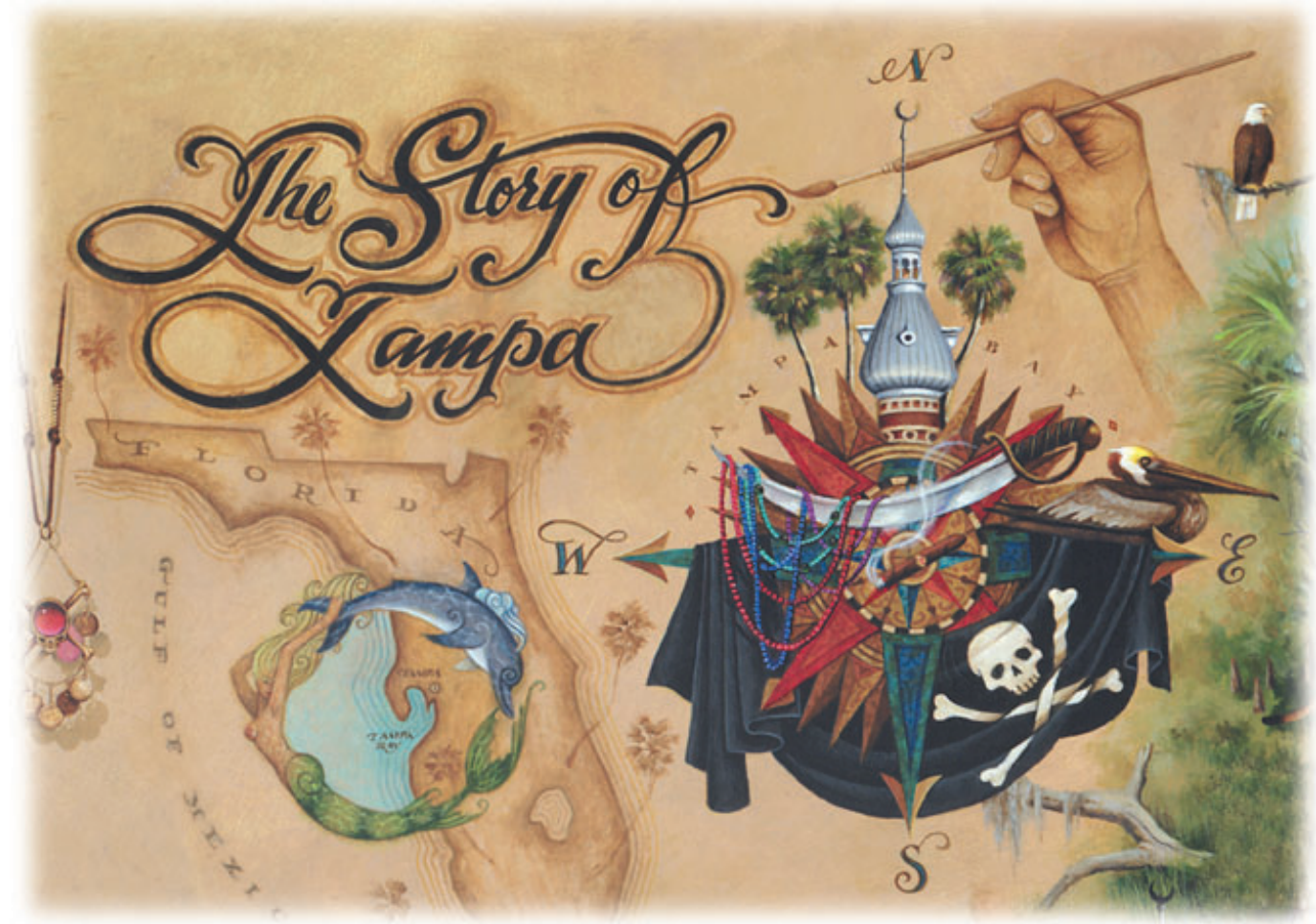
55) Pam Iorio is the 57th Mayor of Tampa, the Nation's 55th largest City. Mayor Iorio was sworn into office April 1, 2003. Iorio began her political career at age 26, when she became the youngest person ever elected to the Hillsborough County Commission (1985-1992). A year later her fellow commissioners elected her chairman. After serving two terms on the County Commission, Iorio was elected three times to the office of Supervisor of Elections for Hillsborough County (1993-2003).

56) Billy Graham started his evangelistic crusade on Franklin Street in 1939 and graduated from the Florida Bible Institute in Temple Terrace.

57) Baseball great, Al Lopez was born in Ybor City in 1908. A cigar worker's son, Lopez's began his baseball career with the local team, Tampa Smokers in 1924. Lopez later played for the Brooklyn Dodgers, Boston Braves, Pittsburgh Pirates and Cleveland Indians. Lopez died at 97 October 30, 2005.

58) The Tampa Bay Buccaneers joined the NFL in 1976 and were Super Bowl XXXVII Champions at the end of the 2002 season. Featured here are players Mike Alstott and Derek Brooks and head coach Jon Gruden.

Tampa**Public**Art



Story of Tampa - detail

In 2003, the City of Tampa's Public Art Program commissioned artist Lynn Ash to create a large painting that would weave together many of the notable aspects of Tampa's unique character and identity. Over the course of three years, the artist researched, met with community leaders, and looked at hundreds of photographs. The end result is a collage of nearly 200 vignettes, portraits, and images that all speak to some aspect of Tampa, both past and present. The border that wraps The Story of Tampa is comprised of over 50 individual smaller "paintings within the painting", each somehow specific to Tampa: deviled crab, citrus, cuban bread, manatees, and bananas, are just a few. Within the body of the painting the viewer will find portraits of recent and past Mayors, civic leaders, celebrities and national heroes. They will also find well-recognized landmarks, a few more obscure ones, and several memorable events. While no single artwork, novel, or film could possibly present a complete story, *The Story of Tampa* is a visual celebration of Tampa, the city and its people.

The Story of Tampa

Artist: Lynn Ash
Year Completed: 2006
Materials: Acrylic on masonite
Dimensions: 4' x 8'

Commissioned by the City of Tampa Public Art Program. The mission of the City of Tampa Public Art Program is to promote the involvement of artists in projects throughout the city that embrace the physical environment and celebrate Tampa's unique character and identity.

1) This scene of early Tampa circa 1400s depicts Timucuan Indians preceding the European invasion of the 1500s.

2) Hernando DeSoto arrived on the West Coast of Florida in 1539 and continued to explore all of Florida and the Southeast US.

3) In November 1823, orders were issued to Colonel George Mercer Brooke to establish a military post on Tampa Bay. In January 1824, Colonel Brooke arrived in Tampa Bay and established Fort Brooke in the area now home to the Tampa Convention Center, Tampa Marriott Waterside and Cotanchobee Fort Brooke Park. The fort also played a role in the second and third Seminole Wars and the Civil War.

4) Cesar Gonzmart was a concert violinist and married Adela Gonzmart in 1946. Adela's grandfather, Casimiro Hernandez Sr. founded the Columbia restaurant in 1905. Cesar and Adela took over running the restaurant in the1950s.

5) The Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City was founded in 1905 by Casimiro Hernandez Sr.

6) Seventh Avenue in Ybor City, locally known as "La Setima" is the heart of the Historic Latin District.

7) In 1886, Vicente Martinez Ybor established the first cigar factory just northeast of Tampa in an area that would come to be known as Ybor City. The area attracted immigrants and evolved into the cigar capital of the world.

8) Joseph Lancaster was the first Mayor of Tampa in 1856. He had previously served as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, two terms in the state legislature and a judge for the Southern Judicial Circuit before moving to Tampa in 1854.

9) During the Spanish-American War in 1898, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt and his cavalry unit known as the "Rough Riders" were stationed in Tampa. Tampa served as the staging area for the Area for the American troops invading Cuba.

10) Built by Henry B. Plant and opening its doors as the Tampa Bay Hotel in 1891, this historic structure became home to Tampa's first local university, the University of Tampa, in 1933.

11) The Sacred Heart Church Parish started in 1888 and the current church, located on Florida Avenue, was built in 1903.

12) A native of Scotland, Captain James McKay's cattle and international shipping businesses made him a very well respected and wealthy citizen of Tampa. In 1859, he was elected mayor. James McKay, Sr., was the only non-U.S. citizen to serve as Mayor of Tampa. He remained a citizen of the United Kingdom throughout his life.

13) In 1995, the Florida Aquarium located at Channelside opened its doors to the public. The facility is home to over 10,000 aquatic plants and animals from 1,340 species from Florida and all over the world.

14) Located at 601 N. Nebraska Avenue, historic Tampa Union Station was built in 1912. It represented the rapid urbanization of Tampa at the turn of the century, centralizing a variety of railroad station terminals throughout the downtown area.

15) Tony Jannus was the world's first person to conduct a commercial aircraft flight. This took place from St. Petersburg to Tampa in 1914. Tony Jannus later died in 1916 when his airplane had engine trouble and crashed into the Black Sea. Each year since 1964, the St. Petersburg and Tampa Chambers of Commerce hold the Tony Jannus Award and honor individuals who "have significantly contributed to the growth and improvement of the scheduled airline history."

16) James E. Tokley, is Tampa's first official Poet Laureate via proclamation January 22, 1996.

17) In 1903, Congregation Rodeph Sholom, began on Palm Avenue with only 20 families. The synagogue is now located on Bayshore Blvd and has grown to over 500 household members.

18) Jose Marti, born 1853, was a leader in the Cuban Independence movement, as well as an accomplished writer and poet.

19) Located on the corner of Main Street and Howard Avenue, the Fourth of July Cafe, made famous for its cafe con leche, is the gateway to the West Tampa business district.

20) MacDill Air Force Base, officially dedicated in 1941, was first named Southeast Air Base, and later renamed MacDill Field in honor of Colonel Leslie MacDill.

21) Henry B. Plant, born 1819, was the founder of the Plant System of Railroads and Steamboats, and built the Tampa Bay Hotel, now known as the University of Tampa.

22) The Colonnade Restaurant on Bayshore Blvd. has been a South Tampa seafood landmark since 1935.

23) In 1881, two sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, opened a two-room school house on Zack Street in Tampa. In the late 1920s, the Academy of the Holy Names moved to its current location on Bayshore Blvd.

24) The Wave on Bayshore, part of the City of Tampa's Public Art Program, was created by artist Mary Ann Unger. The steel sculpture is 10' x 15' x 6'. This artwork is reminiscent of the motion of a wave breaking onto the shore. Additionally, the open arch form of the white wave evokes the form of a shell or the ribs of a boat's hull.

25) Bayshore Boulevard is known as the world's longest continuous sidewalk, spanning 4.5 miles down Tampa Bay.

26) Fictional pirate, Jose Gaspar, terrorized Florida's coastal waters in the early 19th century. In 1904, Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla began an annual celebration based on the invasion of the pirate.

27) The Tampa Convention Center, located directly on the waterfront in the heart of downtown Tampa, hosts a variety of conventions, tradeshows, and other special events year-round.

28) Ballast Point Pier is located at the south end of Bayshore Blvd. In the 1840s, Ballast Point was used for large draft ships.

29) The Tampa Bay Lightning was founded in 1992 and their home is the St. Pete Times Forum in Tampa. The Team rose to the top and became Stanley Cup Champions in 2004.

30) As the 12th largest cargo port in the nation, the Port of Tampa is Florida's largest seaport. Though concentrated on cargo operations, the port continues to attract cruise lines.