

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Bok Tower Gardens, created as a place of peace and tranquility as a nature preserve, was dedicated and presented for visitation by the American People by Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States, on February 1st, 1929; and

WHEREAS, Edward W. Bok, while creating the Gardens, also established the American Peace Prize to promote world peace through international diplomacy and dialog; seeking to encourage the best qualities of humankind to better the world and society; and

WHEREAS, The Gardens represent the embodiment of Edward W. Bok's dream of world peace and remain as a testament to his efforts to make the world better because he lived in it; and

WHEREAS, The Gardens' mission for eight and a half decades has been to "provide a spot which would reach out in its beauty to the people, and fill their souls with the quiet, the repose, the influence of the beautiful" as a place for nature conservation, fine landscape design, and superb musical performances; and

WHEREAS, The City of Lake Wales, the State of Florida, the Green Horizon Land Trust, and the Bok Tower Gardens Foundation have partnered to preserve and protect the scenic vistas from the historic Gardens for now and for future generations; and

WHEREAS, The tower is one of the finest architectural elements in the Nation, and the Carillon is one of the finest carillons in the world, with an internationally recognized music program; the grounds and gardens designed by Fredrick Law Olmsted Jr. have been preserved for these decades so that this National Historic Landmark remains a treasure for the City of Lake Wales, the State of Florida, and for our great Nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eugene Fultz, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lake Wales, in the State of Florida, do hereby designate the first week of February 2014 as

Bok Tower Gardens Week

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Lake Wales, Florida to be affixed this 21st day of January 2014.

Mayor/Commissioner