

*Office of the Mayor
The City of Coral Gables*

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Coral Gables Branch Library plays a vital role in supporting the quality of life for our residents, as a community center for work, play, educational activities and programs for people of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the library first opened its doors in November, 1927, in a room at Douglas Entrance with 300 books and furniture provided by The Coral Gables Corporation, courtesy of the City's founder George Merrick. In 1937, the library had acquired 9,000 volumes of books and had outgrown its original site, when it moved into the Coral Gables Woman's Club, located at 1001 East Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Coral Gables, Florida; and

WHEREAS, in July, 1954, the Coral Gables Library became a municipally operated library, in 1966 the library became part of the Miami-Dade Public Library System, and by the late 1960s the library required an even bigger venue; initiating the groundbreaking which began in 1968 for the 28,000 square foot structure built to replace the smaller former library structure on Ponce de Leon Boulevard, and the building was inaugurated in March, 1969. Today, 50 years later, the building located on University Drive and Segovia Street (3443 Segovia Street), is still home to the library, and home to the Pancoast mural and other historic furniture and books; and

WHEREAS, the Coral Gables Branch Library has the highest number of circulating materials, whereby they have the most number of books and videos checked out in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting and proper that we gather in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Coral Gables Branch Library at its current location;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAUL VALDES-FAULI, as Mayor of the City of Coral Gables, along with the members of our City Commission, do hereby proclaim March 23, 2019 as:

“CORAL GABLES BRANCH LIBRARY DAY IN CORAL GABLES”

IN OBSERVANCE THEREOF, I encourage the citizens of our “City Beautiful” to visit the Coral Gables Branch Library, which has evolved into a community gathering place where people go for printed and digital information, culturally enriching events, professional workshops and more.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of Coral Gables to be affixed on this twelfth day of March, A.D., 2019.

*Raul Valdes-Fauli
Mayor*

*Vince Lago
Vice Mayor*

*Patricia Keon
Commissioner*

*Michael Mena
Commissioner*

*Frank C. Quesada
Commissioner*