



MEMORANDUM

TO: Tampa Connection Class and Board Members

FROM: Janel Gonzalez, John McAllister, Kathy Carr & Shira Martin

DATE: October 3, 2008

RE: Tampa 101 Program – Tampa Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Tampa 101 will be an exciting program for all class members, whether you are a Tampa native or newly-arrived. This full day program will provide a historical perspective of the people who helped make Tampa what it is today, offer rare behind-the-scenes tours of some of Tampa's more notable locations, and conclude with what makes Tampa such a special place to live in 2008 and beyond.

Our day will begin at The News Center, Tampa Tribune Auditorium, where we will hear a short presentation from Fred Hearn, owner of Tampa Bay History Tours, regarding our beloved Tampa area. We will then board buses and head to Oaklawn, Tampa's oldest cemetery (a 2006 Tampa Connection Purple Team project), where Fred Hearn will entertain you with some of the notable Tampa characters interred there. Our next stop will lead us to the J.C. Newman Cigar Company where we will learn about the cigar industry in Tampa from the Newman family and receive a guided tour of the cigar-making process in their factory. We will have lunch at the historic Ybor Columbia Restaurant, and be joined by Dr. Gary Mormino, a USF professor, researcher and author of several publications about Florida's history as well as immigration and urban America. Following Dr. Mormino, the class will re-board the buses and visit this year's Red team project location, The Firefighters Museum. We will learn about the Museum and its rich history and then hear from Paul Ayers, Downtown Tampa Partnership's Director of Marketing, to learn more about other interesting museums downtown and nearby. We will return to The News Center where Dr. Liana Fernandez-Fox, a professor at Hillsborough Community College, will speak about the vision of the Tampa of tomorrow. Guided tours of WFLA News Channel 8 and the Tampa Tribune will conclude the program while a social networking hour will follow on The News Center terrace. It will be a fun-filled, packed day!

WHEN: **Tuesday, October 14, 2008 (this is an ALL Day program)**

TIME: **7:45 AM - 8:00 AM Class check-in** (Coffee will be available)
8:00 AM – 4:45 PM Program and tours
4:45 PM – 6:00 PM – Social Hour - News Center Terrace

WHERE: The News Center: The Tampa Tribune Auditorium 202 S. Parker (map attached for directions and parking)

ATTIRE: Business casual – **Please wear your Tampa Connection shirt, slacks and comfortable closed-toe shoes. We will be walking through a cemetery and a working factory so closed toe shoes are required.**

RSVP: Please reply to this email NO later than Tuesday, October 7th as to your attendance.
If possible, please carpool to the News Center or walk from downtown.