

CITY OF  PITTSBURGH  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

*A Proclamation*

*By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh,  
I do hereby issue this proclamation honoring*

**LEO CASINO**  
**August 18, 2008**

**WHEREAS**, for more than 30 years, the name Leo Casino has been synonymous with Grammy-nominated saxophonist, composer, filmmaker, actor, model, and activist; and

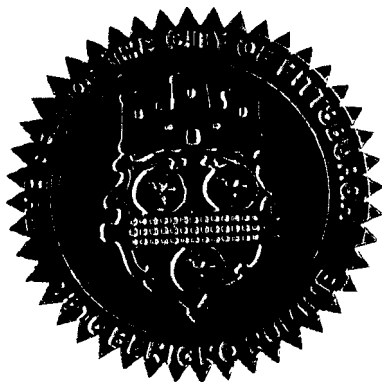
**WHEREAS**, Leo Casino has long ago surpassed the boundary of accomplished musician. He is as comfortable incorporating Latin and Middle Eastern melodies into his music as he is performing in his well known sultry smooth jazz style; and

**WHEREAS**, Leo is one of Pittsburgh's own. A rather rocky upbringing in the Hill District of Pittsburgh caused him to gravitate toward that neighborhood's rich musical scene. He began studying music at the age of nine, and by his teens, he was playing with such giants as Stanley Turrentine, Cy Morocco and George Benson; and

**WHEREAS**, rising above what could have been a tortured existence, Leo received a full scholarship to Howard University, and became the first United States' Jazz Major, studying under Donald Byrd and Quincy Jones. He has played with many greats: George Benson, Earth Wind and Fire, Neil Diamond, Jimi Hendrix, and Lionel Richie, to name only a few; and

**WHEREAS**, as his career grew, Leo became increasingly interested in giving back. He lectured on race relations at colleges around the country. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Mallory College. He was an entertainer and fundraiser for victims of Hurricane Katrina, and his latest CD, "Better Days", is dedicated to those that lost their lives on September 11, 2001. Whether walking the streets of Miami in an effort to clean up prostitution, or fighting for the rights of the homeless, Leo is the voice of the forgotten.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Luke Ravenstahl, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, recognize the multi-talented Leo Casino for his successful career as a renowned jazz saxophonist and for his continuing work as social worker, preacher, fundraiser and advocate for the less fortunate. I do hereby declare August 18, 2008, "Leo Casino Day" here in our most livable City of Pittsburgh.



*Luke Ravenstahl*

**LUKE RAVENSTAHL**

*Mayor*