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PR Orange Blossom 2.0

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**Beyond A Book:  
Orange Blossom 2.0 Inspires A Movement  
To Right Miami's Origin Story with Mary Brickell**

Historian, Cesar A. Becerra finally buries debate concerning Mary Brickell as Miami's unrecognized mother on the city's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**MIAMI, FL September 7, 2021** – To commemorate Miami's 125th anniversary, historian and author Cesar A. Becerra has launched his new book, *Orange Blossom 2.0* which tells the untold story of Miami's "Other Mother" Mary Brickell and her integral and often overlooked role in the founding of Miami.

In fact, this notion of Mary's true role in our city's history was first mentioned in a Miami News article in 1958 titled *Women You'll Remember* by journalist Jane Wood Reno in which she called Julia Tuttle Miami's "other mother" and focused on Mary as the Mother of Miami. Years later there were few scant voices echoing this claim.

Since the celebration of Miami's Centennial 25 years ago, Becerra has been on a mission to find the truth and share this story. With the help of writers, researchers, journalists, historians and genealogists the world over, he has been amassing new documents and proof that Mary Bulmer Brickell could very well be the most marginalized female founder in Miami history.

It wasn't until recently as he returned from a research trip to Australia to follow in the footsteps of the Brickells that it was time to publish important findings debated for years among a small group of historians. Becerra's aim is to laser focus on Miami's origin story and



deconstruct how it became romanticized and simplified down to orange blossoms, the will of Julia Tuttle, and a railroad magnate named Henry Flagler.

*“Orange Blossom 2.0”* is the result of that journey and gathering spree that has trickled slowly into an avalanche becoming hard to ignore.

**About the author** - Cesar A. Becerra is a South Florida historian who’s taken part in chronicling and sharing the stories of the region for two decades. He is the author of half a dozen books ranging from hiking the Appalachian Trail to the logging history of the Big Cypress Preserve. He is the former publisher of *The Everglade Magazine*, an award winning publication printed during Everglades National Park's 50th anniversary. He has walked, hiked, slogged, canoed, kayaked, airboated and swamp buggied all across the Everglades. In 1997, The Miami Herald named him an "Everglades Evangelist". He also has a penchant for hidden history and knows no boundaries or distances when it comes to searching for it.