

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** designated by Congress in 2006, the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor encompasses 12,818 square miles of land along the southeastern coast of the United States, including Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Horry, Jasper, Marion, and Williamsburg Counties in South Carolina; and

**WHEREAS,** home to the Gullah Geechee people, descendants of captive Africans brought to the southern United States from West Africa, this area is the birthplace of one of our country's most unique cultures; and

**WHEREAS,** the Gullah Geechee people preserve their distinctive heritage by continuing the language, folklore, religion, arts, and other cultural traditions established by their ancestors; and

**WHEREAS,** increasing awareness and understanding of Gullah Geechee culture leads to a deeper appreciation for the significant contributions of Gullah Geechee people to our state and nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2014 as**

### GULLAH GEECHEE AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about Gullah Geechee culture and important issues within the corridor.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

**NIKKI R. HALEY**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**