

# 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 2013 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