



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**AFRICAN DIASPORA HERITAGE MONTH**

**2024**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, communities across North Carolina annually celebrate African Diaspora Heritage Month and Respect Day each September, with programs, ceremonies, and cultural activities, including panel discussions with distinguished guests; and

**WHEREAS**, the African diaspora in the U.S. has grown by nearly 246 percent from 2000 to 2019 and is projected to exceed 2.6 million people by 2035; it is one of the most diverse communities, with members who hail from across the African continent, speak multiple languages, and practice various faiths; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the African diaspora contribute significantly to the economic growth and innovation of North Carolina and the U.S.; they are deeply committed to family, community, and hard work and are valued members of our society; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the African diaspora possess valuable insights into U.S.-Africa relations and networks, supporting efforts to strengthen ties between the two regions; The African Think Tank, including its presence in Charlotte, fosters belonging and helps to drive professional, entrepreneurial, and economic growth, uniting the African diaspora and strengthening U.S.-Africa government relations; and

**WHEREAS**, African diaspora organizations foster collaborations among cultural alliances, celebrating a community known for its high educational achievements; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina remains committed to celebrating the achievements of the African diaspora and fostering partnerships between U.S. and African companies to drive technology and innovation in agriculture, industry, healthcare and entrepreneurship;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2024, as “**AFRICAN DIASPORA HERITAGE MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



**Roy Cooper**  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirty-first day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.