



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2026

- WHEREAS,** Maryland is home to a vibrant African diaspora community, whose members contribute to the state's cultural, social, economic, and civic life; this community reflects the diversity of Maryland's residents and our shared dedication to promote equality of opportunity, understanding, and acceptance by all; and
- WHEREAS,** Ten percent of Marylanders are African-born, representing a variety of countries, languages, customs, and cultures that add to the distinctive personality and vitality of communities across our state; and
- WHEREAS,** With the fourth largest population of African immigrants in the country, Maryland is home to an African diaspora whose members have created businesses, strengthened neighborhoods, served in public office and public service, and expanded opportunities for generations to come; and
- WHEREAS,** African immigrants continue to make lasting contributions throughout Maryland in business, politics, education, healthcare, science, technology, sports, and the arts, while strengthening our communities and enriching the cultural fabric of our state; and
- WHEREAS,** Throughout September, the State of Maryland proudly celebrates African Heritage Month by honoring the rich cultures, traditions, achievements, and contributions of African communities and reaffirms our commitment to a building state where everyone can thrive and where we leave no one behind.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 2026 as AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of September
Two Thousand and twenty-six

[Signature]
Governor
[Signature]
Lt. Governor
[Signature]
Secretary of State