

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, local festivals and celebrations throughout the Palmetto State help to preserve the unique traditions and heritage that are part of our cultural history; and

WHEREAS, the Gullah culture, one of our nation's most distinctive cultural treasures and a valuable gem in the history and heritage of African-Americans, is rooted in South Carolina's Sea Islands; and

WHEREAS, showcasing traditional art, music, dance, food, and language through storytelling, theater, poetry, historic ceremonies, and education and humanities programs in an authentic setting, the Island Heritage Festival brings the past to life for the generations of today; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the first annual Island Heritage Festival to celebrate and help preserve the rich history and heritage of the Gullah culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 22 – 26, 2006, as

ISLAND HERITAGE FESTIVAL WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate the rich heritage of our sea islands and honor those who are dedicated to preserving the island culture for future generations.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA