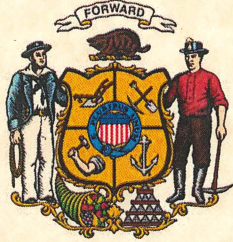


STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; August 2019 marks 400 years since the first enslaved Africans arrived in the United States; and

WHEREAS; the “Year of Return, Ghana 2019” project is a collaboration between the Ghanaian Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture, Office of Diaspora Affairs, Panafest Foundation, and the United States-based Adinkra Group; and

WHEREAS; the “Year of Return, Ghana 2019” project will facilitate a trip for members of the NAACP to travel from Jamestown in Accra, Ghana to Jamestown, Virginia in a landmark and reconciliatory birth-right journey; and

WHEREAS; the “Year of Return” is designed to celebrate the collective resilience of the African community upon the 400th year of their ancestors’ enslavement and displacement throughout the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia; and

WHEREAS; the “Year of Return” provides an opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the atrocities of our past, the progress we have made, and the fight for equity, freedom, and justice still to be had; and

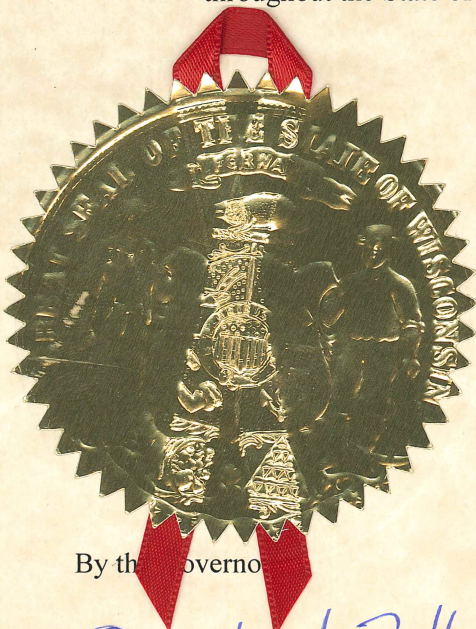
WHEREAS; Ghana's successful fight for independence from Great Britain in 1957 served as a beacon of hope for civil rights leaders during the American Civil Rights movement, inspiring activists like Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King; and

WHEREAS; the struggle for equity, freedom, and justice for all peoples of the African diaspora are woven together through collective origin, struggle, pain, and pride;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim August 18 – 25, 2019, as the

YEAR OF RETURN

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our citizens.



By the Governor

Douglas La Follette
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand and
caused the Great Seal of the State
of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done
at the Capitol in the City of
Madison this 2nd day of August
2019.

Tony Evers
TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR