

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

## **PROCLAMATION**

## "2023 MOSO'OI FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES"

- WHEREAS, the Moso'oi Festival of the Arts and Humanities, recently revived by the effort of local artists and community members and coordinated with the Agency for Better Living Endeavors (ABLE), shall be supported by the Amerika Samoa Humanities Council and American Samoa Government, preserving Samoan knowledge and values through artistic material and cultural performances for the benefit of all generations of American Samoa; and
- WHEREAS, the Moso'oi Festival of Arts and Humanities recognizes that the centering of "Fa'aSamoa" among our youth builds a bridge to older generations, which promotes the continuity of Samoan ideas, information, and ways of life in our islands.
- WHEREAS, garlands of Moso'oi flowers are used to invite the Palolo to the shores of our villages in the month of October, the Moso'oi's bright yellow color and sweet fragrance represents the resilience of our Samoan people and living life to the fullest; and
- WHEREAS, the community push to revive the Moso'oi Festival has revived our homeland's "Motu o Fiafiaga" identity and encourages our youth to actively engage in community building, developing pride in their identity as Samoans, and connect with visitors to promote the beauty of our home, history, and culture.
- WHEREAS, the representative leadership of American Samoa recommends that the entire community combines its effort, talent, and spirit to support the Moso'oi Festival and enrich American Samoa's reputation as the Motu o Fiafiaga.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, TALAUEGA E. V. ALE, Acting Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim October 2023, as "Annual Moso'oi Festival of the Arts and Humanities" in American Samoa. I encourage the people of American Samoa to take notice of these events and to participate in their observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this \_\_254h day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.

TALAUEGA E. V. ALE

Acting Governor