



WHEREAS, each February, National Black History Month serves as both a celebration and a powerful reminder that Black history is American history, Black culture is American culture, and Black stories are essential to the American Story — our faults, our struggles, our progress, and our aspirations; and

WHEREAS, February 1st marked the grand opening of The Center for African and African American Studies (CAAAS) at the University of Colorado Boulder; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the CAAAS is to research, promote, preserve, interpret, and disseminate knowledge about the histories, cultures, and arts of Africa, African Americans, and the wider African diaspora; and

WHEREAS, through its emphasis on historical knowledge, cultural grounding, academic excellence, social responsibility, and artistic expression, the CAAAS promotes the production and dissemination of knowledge, and the development of personal and professional leadership, mentorship, and advocacy for social change and social justice; and

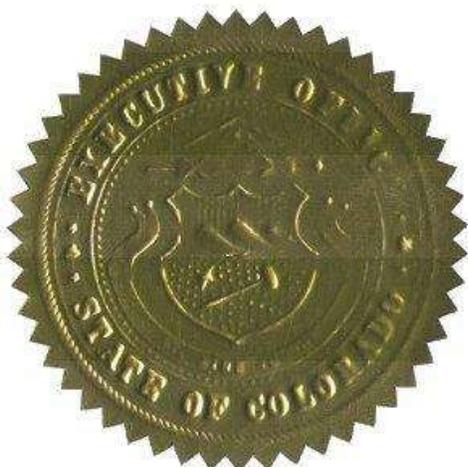
WHEREAS, CAAAS, led by its founder and inaugural director Dr. Reiland Rabaka, is a co-curricular and community-building site where students, staff, faculty, alumni, artists, activists, allies, and community members come together to critically and systematically study the historical, cultural, spiritual, sociopolitical, economic, and artistic experiences of Africans, African Americans, and the African diaspora;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim February 1, 2023 as

CENTER FOR AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES DAY

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of February, 2023



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

*Jared Polis
Governor*