

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

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## PROCLAMATION AMERICAN SAMOA ARCHIVES MONTH

- WHEREAS, October was first designated as "National American Archives Month" by the Society of American Archivists and the Council of State Archivists in 2006; and
- WHEREAS, this annual commemoration helps publicize the many ways that historical records enrich our lives and also provides a moment to recognize and appreciate the dedicated work of professionals and organizations who protect information, preserve individual and cultural rights, guard government accountability and transparency, and who encourage community communication; and
- WHEREAS, the American Samoa Department of Administrative Services' Office of Archives and Records Management provides custody and access to American Samoa's important documents, files, photographs, films, tapes, electronic records, and digital holdings; and functions to identify and create finding guides and databases to Executive, Judicial, and Legislature files for public and private researchers, teachers, students, writers and residents seeking government information; and
- WHEREAS, Archivists, along with government officials, recordkeepers, registrars, and administrators, therefore play an important role in keeping legal, fiscal, administrative and historical repositories; and such holdings are a witness to American Samoa's unique Democracy and a testament of its cultural survival and development as part of America since 1900; and
- WHEREAS, this year's theme "Malosiaga o le Aufa'atasi" | "The Power of Collaboration" focuses on significant documents as well as the challenges of COVID-19.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of American Samoa, proclaim by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws and the people of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim that October 2021 is "American Samoa Archives Month, and in so doing, I encourage one and all to acknowledge the importance of retaining and sharing knowledge of the past for present and future generations.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereby affix my signature and seal of my office on this the 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one.

Governor of American Samoa