



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### BALLOON MONTH

**WHEREAS:** The modern-day, manufactured, latex toy balloon has only been around since 1931. It was invented by Neil Tillotson, a chemical engineer and inventor from New England; and

**WHEREAS:** In the 1970s, latex balloon bouquets filled with helium were a popular style, as were twister balloons which were used to create various animals and amusing shapes for children of all ages. In the late 1970s, foil balloons were invented and patented by Gerald Hurst, a Cambridge chemist. The new foil balloons were favorably received and quickly expanded the industry; and

**WHEREAS:** Today balloons, which come in all shapes and sizes, are used extensively by colleges, universities, businesses, and many other organizations to show support; advertise services, products, or events; and to launch new ideas. Balloon sculpture and event decorating has become an internationally accepted and lucrative profession. Balloons, balloon arches, themed designs, elaborate balloon sculptures, and celebratory balloon drops have become mainstays at events such as parties, weddings, and sporting events; and

**WHEREAS:** Balloons have come to symbolize celebration, happiness, and fun and can be enjoyed by everyone, young and old for events large and small; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as BALLOON MONTH in Georgia and encourage Georgian families to experience the joy and simplicity of balloons as they celebrate life's special moments.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Martin Kipatrich*

CHIEF OF STAFF