



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

A PROCLAMATION

VIDALIA ONION FESTIVAL DAYS

- WHEREAS:** The Vidalia Onion Festival celebrates the annual harvest of Georgia's State Vegetable, the sweet Vidalia Onion and attracts over 50,000 visitors from around the world to South Georgia each year; and
- WHEREAS:** Providing a significant economic impact to the South Georgia region, the Vidalia Onion Festival has grown tremendously since its humble beginning in 1977 when the Vidalia Women's Club and the Vidalia Lion's Club organized an arts and crafts festival as a fundraiser to promote the sweet Vidalia Onion; and
- WHEREAS:** The Vidalia Onion Festival operates on local contributions, event sponsorship and limited revenue-generating activities and, in turn, donates funds back to the community throughout the year; and
- WHEREAS:** The 46th Annual Vidalia Onion Festival will hold most of its events in the downtown area and in the Ronnie A. Dixon City Park to bring awareness to beautiful Historic Downtown Vidalia; the festival opens with the pre-festival events: Local Entertainment and Movie Under the Stars and the Carnival, and on Thursday April 20th a Student's Chalk Walk and the Opening Ceremonies, Street Dance with The Geek Squad Band and Fireworks, a new Friday Night Concert co-headlined by Mitchell Tenpenny and Dylan Scott on April 21st, and a new Sunday Night Christian Concert on April 23rd; and
- WHEREAS:** With the aroma of freshly cooked Vidalia Onions, the celebration of the Vidalia Onion harvest is shared with people from around the world with athletic events, art events, onion cooking events, arts and crafts, live entertainment, recognition of Vidalia Onion lore and featuring ACM Award winning artist Gabby Barrett in the Saturday Night Concert with supporting performers Nate Smith and Drew Green on April 22nd; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 20-23, 2023, as VIDALIA ONION FESTIVAL DAYS in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 13th day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Nancy K. Lister-Jones

CHIEF OF STAFF