



# *Proclamation*

## *Presented*

### **In Recognition of the 2013 Hawai'i Chocolate Festival**

**WHEREAS**, the 2013 Hawai'i Chocolate Festival raises awareness about Hawai'i being the only state among 50 states that grows cacao, which is in high demand in Asian markets, thereby allowing our state to prosper and compete in a niche market that is an environmentally sustainable product; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2013 Hawai'i Chocolate Festival reminds us that cacao is a revenue-producing crop that helps to preserve green and open space in Hawai'i and can be combined successfully with many other locally-grown products to enhance the profits of other local crop production simultaneously; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2013 Hawai'i Chocolate Festival celebrates cacao, which is grown primarily for chocolate production but has many other benefits, including the use by the pharmaceutical industry; studies have linked cacao flavonoids to have anti-inflammatory benefits as well as cardiovascular and immune system health benefits, and the cosmetic industries uses cacao to enhance their products; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2013 Hawai'i Chocolate Festival recognizes Amy Hammond, President of Special Events Hawai'i, for her hard work and dedication to producing the festival, and the impact this event has on creating employment and economic opportunities for our citizens in areas such as research, manufacturing, marketing, agriculture, ecotourism, retail, and more;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE**, Governor, and **I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI**, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim February 23, 2013, as

## **"HAWAI'I CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL DAY"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in celebrating Hawai'i's premier showcase of locally produced cacao and chocolate, and congratulate local chocolate connoisseurs for their contributions to our economy.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twentieth day of February, 2013.

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

**SHAN S. TSUTSUI**  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i