

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS: John E. Brown, Sr., born April 2nd, 1879, in Oskaloosa, Iowa, and from humble beginnings, dedicated his life to inspiring young people to dedicate themselves to public service through his work as an evangelist, author and educator as well as through the founding of John Brown University; and
- WHEREAS: Brown left school at age 11 for employment on a neighbor's farm to help support the family's income, learning the value of self-discipline and hard work, virtues on which he would eventually build a university. In adulthood, Brown continued his self-education by reading works of great literature and writings on western civilization, art and social commentary; and
- WHEREAS: In 1896, Brown and his older brother arrived in Rogers, Arkansas, where Brown answered a Salvation Army drummer's call to meeting and, a few days later, devoted his life to Christ. Brown began several years of service with the Salvation Army as an evangelist; and
- WHEREAS: In the first two decades of the twentieth century, Brown established a growing reputation as an interdenominational evangelist with wit, insight, and charm. He traveled across much of the nation holding evangelistic revival meetings in churches and temporary wooden tabernacles; and
- WHEREAS: Seeing a need for the education of the young men and women who answered his revival call for unselfish dedication of their lives to the public good, Brown developed a vision for a school that would be distinctly Christian and available to students of difficult economic circumstances; and
- WHEREAS: On September 29th, 1919, Brown's new school was dedicated, and the next morning seventy students from twelve states started classes with ten instructors; and
- WHEREAS: Brown's mission of a head, heart, and hand education was fulfilled by students performing the work of the school's various industries—both to keep it functioning and to gain vocational training—for half of the day and attending classes for half of the day; and
- WHEREAS: Over 17,000 students have graduated from the university founded by Brown and set forth to serve others around the globe; and
- WHEREAS: September 29th, 2019, will be the 100th anniversary of the university founded by John E. Brown, Sr.;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim September 29th, 2019, as

JOHN E. BROWN, SR. DAY IN ARKANSAS

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 3rd day of September, in the year of our Lord 2019.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Asa Hutchinson".

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Thurston".
John Thurston, Secretary Of State