CULTURES CONNECTING
DIVERSITY CALENDAR
2023-2024
MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of this calendar is to address and support the diversity of students, staff, and families in K-12 education settings and beyond. We recognize that by increasing our understanding of diverse cultures, group experiences, traditions, values and beliefs, we can enhance our relationships with one another and hence, create culturally responsive environments where everyone feels valued and respected.

HOW DATES WERE CHOSEN

Due to the extensive number of cultural holidays, dates for this calendar were determined by the following four criteria:

1. Might a student or staff member be absent as a result of this day?
2. Might a student or staff member be disengaged as a result of this day (e.g., hunger or a negative association with a particular day/date such as Thanksgiving, or a day of remembrance of a tragic event)?
3. Might a student, family, or staff member not be able to participate in a school activity during or after school as a result of this day? (e.g., Many of our students do not participate in Halloween or Valentine’s Day. There are students, families, and staff who cannot participate in district/school events that are scheduled on the evening of an important religious day observed by the Jewish and Muslim communities).
4. Does the day provide an opportunity for a teachable moment regarding ethnic or cultural diversity that might not otherwise be discussed, particularly dates associated with a continued history of oppression, discrimination, or racism?
WORK IN PROGRESS

We ask for your patience in the event that we have missed important dates that apply to the four criteria above. This was an enormous task taken on by a handful of individuals of good will and intention. If you know of additional cultural holidays that meet the above criteria, or would like to offer suggestions for appropriate websites, books, or other resources that can be used to improve this calendar, please contact: Judy Lee at judy.lee@culturesconnecting.com.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

This calendar began as a project of Seattle Public Schools. We would like to thank the following contributors that made this Diversity Calendar possible.

SPECIAL THANKS

- Bilingual Instructional Assistants, SPS
- Willard Bill, Jr., Huchoosedah
- Anita Morales, Instructional Services
- Shannon McMinimee, Legal Office
- Keisha Scarlett, STAR Consultant
- Mohamed Roble, Bilingual Community Liaison
- Ilsa Govan, Equity & Race Specialist
- Judy Lee, Cultures Connecting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Caprice Hollins, Cultures Connecting
- Hung Pham, Bilingual & Community Liaison
- Shelly Rosen, SPS Parent
- Carl Shutoff, Instructional Technology Resource Teacher
NOTES:

- Starred (*) holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.

- Caret (^) indicates work restrictions.

- Due to regional and cultural differences, the holidays listed may be celebrated on different dates by individuals of the same faith.

- Many of the holidays are based on actual sighting of the moon and therefore the date may vary.

- For more information on individual holidays, click the holiday title to view its hyperlink (many are linked to Wikipedia).

- Please note that some months have two pages.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Religious/Calendar System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON-SAT 26-1</td>
<td>Hajj¹</td>
<td>Islamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE 4</td>
<td>Independence Day</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 19</td>
<td>Muharram (Al Hijrah New Year)</td>
<td>Islamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED-WED 19-16</td>
<td>Al-Hijra / Muharram²</td>
<td>Islamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN 23</td>
<td>Birthday of Haile Selassie</td>
<td>Rastafarian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED-THU 26-27</td>
<td>Tisha B‘Av</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. Hajj is from June 26 - July 1.
2. Al-Hijra / Muharram is from July 19 - August 16.

*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.*
Notes:

1. Al-Hijra / Muharram is from July 19 - August 16.
   *Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
## Hispanic Heritage Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Culture</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON 4</td>
<td><strong>Labor Day</strong></td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>No School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE 12</td>
<td><strong>Enkutatash (New Year)</strong></td>
<td>Ethiopian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 16</td>
<td><strong>Mexican Independence Day</strong></td>
<td>Mexican</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI-SUN</td>
<td><strong>Rosh Hashanah</strong></td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU-FRI</td>
<td><strong>Mabon</strong></td>
<td>Neo-Pagan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN-MON</td>
<td><strong>Yom Kippur</strong></td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>Day of Fasting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI-FRI</td>
<td><strong>Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)</strong></td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:

1. Sukkot is from September 29 - October 6.
2. Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
3. Work restrictions.
OCTOBER 2023

Cultural Diversity Month | Filipino American History Month
Disability Employment Awareness Month | Coming Out Month

FRI-FRI
29-6
Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)†
Jewish

FRI-SUN
6-8
Shemini Atzeret
Jewish

SAT-SUN
7-8
Simchat Torah
Jewish

MON
9
Canadian Thanksgiving
Canada

MON
16
Birth of the Báb
Bahá’í

SUN-TUE
15-24
Navaratri/Dassehra
Hindu

MON-TUE
16-17
Birth of Bahá’u’lláh
Bahá’í

TUE-WED
31-1
Samhain†
Neo-Pagan

Notes:
1. Sukkot is from September 29 - October 6.
2. Samhain is from October 31 to November 1.
*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
^ Work restrictions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUE-WED 31-1</td>
<td>Samhain&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;  Neo-Pagan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 1</td>
<td><strong>All Saint's Day</strong></td>
<td>Anglo-Catholic &amp; Roman Catholic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED-THU 1-2</td>
<td><strong>Día de los Muertos</strong>&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;  Mexican</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 11</td>
<td><strong>Veteran's Day</strong></td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN 12</td>
<td><strong>Diwali</strong></td>
<td>Hindu, Jain, Sikh, Buddhist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU 23</td>
<td><strong>Thanksgiving Day</strong></td>
<td>United States, No School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 27</td>
<td><strong>Birthday of Guru Nanak</strong></td>
<td>Sikh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. Samhain is from October 31 to November 1.
2. Work restrictions.
## DECEMBER 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRI 8</td>
<td>Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 8</td>
<td>Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) (Buddhist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU-FRI 7-15</td>
<td>Hanukkah (Chanukah) (Jewish)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE 12</td>
<td>Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mexican Catholic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT-SUN 16-24</td>
<td>Las Posadas (Mexican)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT-SUN 16-24</td>
<td>Simbang Gabi (Filipino Catholic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU 21</td>
<td>Winter Solstice/ Yule (Neo-Pagan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 25</td>
<td>Christmas Day (Christian) No School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE-MON 26-1</td>
<td>Kwanzaa (African American)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:
1. Kwanzaa is from December 26 - January 1.
2. Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
JANUARY 2024

TUE-MON 26-1
Kwanzaa
African American

MON 1
New Year's Day
International
No school

SAT 6
Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings Day/Epiphany)
Mexican Christian

SUN 7
Orthodox Christmas
Christian Orthodox

MON 15
Martin Luther King Day
United States
No School

Spotlight:
Holocaust Remembrance Day marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi Concentration Camp of Auschwitz-Kirkenau in 1945.

True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice.

Martin Luther King Day
United States
No School

Notes:
1. Kwanzaa is from December 26 - January 1.
^ Work restrictions.
## FEBRUARY 2024

### African American History Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THU-FRI 1-2</td>
<td>Imbolc</td>
<td>Neo-Pagan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 3</td>
<td>Setsubun-sai</td>
<td>Shinto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 10</td>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 10</td>
<td>Lunar New Year</td>
<td>East Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 14</td>
<td>Valentine's Day</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 14</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU-SUN 14-31</td>
<td>Lenten Season</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 19</td>
<td>Day of Remembrance (Japanese Incarceration)</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 19</td>
<td>President's Day</td>
<td>United States No School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:

1. Be mindful that not all students observe this holiday.
2. Lenten Season is from February 14- March 31.
# MARCH 2024

**Women’s History Month**  
**Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Culture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THU-SUN 14-31</td>
<td>Lenten Season¹</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 8</td>
<td>Maha Shivaratri</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON-WED 11-10</td>
<td>Ramadan²</td>
<td>Islamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 8</td>
<td>Maha Shivaratri</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN 17</td>
<td>St. Patrick's Day</td>
<td>Irish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE-WED 19-20</td>
<td>Naw Rúz</td>
<td>Bahá’í, Persian, Kurdish, Zoroastrianism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE-WED 19-20</td>
<td>Persian New Year</td>
<td>Iranian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 20</td>
<td>Ostara</td>
<td>Neo-Pagan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month raises awareness of the contributions of people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of life and the work needed to remove barriers.

**Notes:**
1. Lenten Season is from February 14 - March 31.
2. Ramadan is from March 11 - April 10.
*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
^ Work restrictions.
MARCH 2024

Women’s History Month
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

THU 21
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
International

SAT-SUN 23-24
* Purim
Jewish

SAT 24
Magha Puja Day
Buddhist

SUN 24
Palm Sunday
Christian / Orthodox

SUN-MON 24-25
* Holi
Hindu

THU 28
Maundy Thursday
Christian

FRI 29
Good Friday
Christian

SUN 31
Easter
Christian

SUN 31
César Chávez Day
United States

SUN 31
International Transgender Day of Visibility
International, LGTBQ+ and Allies

Notes:
*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
# APRIL 2024

**Autism Acceptance Month | Arab American Heritage Month | Holocaust Remembrance Month**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MON-WED</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ramadan</strong>¹</td>
<td><strong>TUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>World Autism Awareness Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-10</td>
<td>(Islamic)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SAT</strong></td>
<td><strong>National Tartan Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>SAT</strong></td>
<td><strong>Laylat al-Qadr</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Scottish American</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Islamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUE-WED</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>9-10</strong></td>
<td><strong>Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Islamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>FRI</strong></td>
<td><strong>National Day of Silence</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>LGBTQ+ and Allies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SAT</strong></td>
<td><strong>Vaisakhi</strong></td>
<td><strong>SAT</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Sikh</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. Ramadan is from March 11 - April 10.

*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.

^ Work restrictions.
# APRIL 2024

**Autism Acceptance Month | Arab American Heritage Month | Holocaust Remembrance Month**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Culture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun-Tue 14-16</td>
<td>Bun Pi Mai (New Year)</td>
<td>Laotian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun-Tue 14-16</td>
<td>Cambodian New Year</td>
<td>Cambodian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17</td>
<td>Ramanavami</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat-Sun 20-21</td>
<td>First Day of Ridván</td>
<td>Bahá’í</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon-Tue 22-30</td>
<td>Passover (Pesach)</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed-Tue 24-30</td>
<td>Holy Week</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29</td>
<td>Ninth Day of Ridván</td>
<td>Bahá’í</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 30</td>
<td>Día de los Niños</td>
<td>Mexican</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

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^ Work restrictions.
**MAY 2024**

**Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

| WED 1 | Beltane  
| Neo-Pagan |
|-------|--------|
| WED 1 | May Day  
| (International Worker’s Day)  
| International |
| THU 2 | Twelfth Day of Ridván  
| Bahá’í |
| FRI 3 | Orthodox Good Friday  
| Christian Orthodox |
| SUN 5 | Cinco de Mayo  
| United States / Mexican |
| SUN 5 | Orthodox Easter  
| Christian Orthodox |
| FRI 10 | Mexican Mother’s Day  
| Mexico |

**Workers Day  
International**

**Notes:**

*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.*
MAY 2024
Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month

SUN 12
Mother’s Day
United States

SUN 19
Pentecost
Christian

THU 23
Buddha Day / Visakha Puja / Vesek
Buddhist

SUN 26
Haitian Mother’s Day
Haiti

MON-TUE 27-28
Ascension of Bahá’u’lláh
Bahá’i

Notes:
*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
JUNE 2024
LGBTQ+ Pride Month

TUE-THU 11-13
Shavuot
Jewish

WED 12
Loving Day
United States

FRI-WED 14-19
Hajj
Islamic

SUN-MON 16-17
Eid-ul-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)
Islamic

WED 19
Juneteenth
African American

THU 20
Summer Solstice/Litha
Neo-Pagan

Notes:
* Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
^ Work restrictions.
Disability Pride Month commemorates the passing of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act in July 1990.

Notes:
1. Al-Ḥijra / Muharram is from July 7 - August 4.
*Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.
AUGUST 2024

**SUN-SUN 7-4**
Al-Ḥijra / Muharram
Islamic

**THU 1**
Lughnasadh (Lammas)
Neo-Pagan

**MON 12**
International Youth Day
International

**MON-TUE 12-13**
Tisha B’Av
Jewish

Tisha B’Av is the saddest day on the Jewish calendar. It is the culmination of the Three Weeks, a period of time during which the destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem is marked.

**TUE-THU 13-15**
Obon
Japanese Buddhist

**MON 19**
Raksha Bandhan
Hindu

**SUN-MON 25-26**
Krishna Janmashtami
Hindu

Notes:
1. Al-Ḥijra / Muharram is from July 7 - August 4.
2. *Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.*