

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

CALENDAR OF OBSERVATIONS

2023 – 2024 ASY [AUG – JUNE]

The population of the United States is made up of many different ethnic, cultural, faith, and religious communities. To foster understanding among groups and promote inclusive communities, the school district offers this resource as a tool to increase awareness of and respect for religious obligations and ethnic and cultural activities that may affect students, colleagues, and neighbors in your community.

Religious Observations

The calendar includes substantial religious observances of the major faiths represented in the United States. It can be used when planning school exam schedules and activities, workplace festivities and community events.

National and International Holidays

The calendar notes U.S. holidays that are either legal holidays or observed in various states and communities throughout the country. Important national and international observances that may be commemorated in the U.S. are also included.

Calendar System

The dates of secular holidays are based on the Gregorian calendar, which is commonly used for civil dating purposes. Many religions and cultures follow various traditional calendar systems that are often based on the phases of the moon with occasional adjustments for the solar cycle. Therefore, specific Gregorian calendar dates for these observances will differ from year to year. In addition, calculation of specific dates may vary by geographical location and according to different sects within a religion.

[NOTE: Observances **highlighted in yellow** indicate that the dates are tentative or not yet set by the organizations who coordinate them.]

August 2023

- August 9** **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**
Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to dispossession, discrimination and denial of basic human rights.
- August 12** **INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY**
Celebrates young people and the integral role they play in helping to create a world fit for children.
- August 13-15** **ULLAMBANA (also known as Obon) • Buddhist**
Ullambana, a Sanskrit term that means “hanging upside down and suffering,” honors the spirits of past ancestors and strives to relieve aching souls from suffering. It lasts about half of the month of August. Obon, the Japanese transliteration of Ullambana, is only three days and varies from region to region—July in the eastern region and August in the western region.
- August 21** **SENIOR CITIZEN DAY**
Recognizes the many contributions older adults make in communities across the United States.
- August 23** **INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION**
Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition.
- August 26** **WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY**
Commemorates the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote.
- August 30** **RAKSHA BANDHAN • Hindu**
Also called *Rakhi*, this festival celebrates the protective relationship between brothers and their sisters.

September 2023

September 4		LABOR DAY Celebrated the first Monday in September in recognition of U.S. workers.
September 5		INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY Recognizes the role of charity in alleviating human suffering, as well as of the efforts of charitable organizations and individuals, including the work of Mother Teresa.
September 6		KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI (Also known as JAYANTI) • Hindu Celebrates Krishna's birthday, Vishnu's eighth incarnation on earth.
September 8		INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY Call to action for universal literacy.
September 15- October 15	Full Month	NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH Celebrates the contributions, heritage, and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans.
September 16- 17		ROSH HASHANAH • Jewish Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.
September 17		CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY Commemorates the ratification of the United States Constitution in 1787. Also honors all who have become U.S. citizens.
September 19		GANESH CHATURTHI • Hindu Celebrates the birthday of Ganesha, the elephant-deity.
September 23		AUTUMNAL EQUINOX Marks the first day of the season of fall. The sun shines nearly equally on both hemispheres when it's fall in the Northern Hemisphere and simultaneously spring in the Southern Hemisphere.
September 23		BI VISIBILITY DAY Seeks to draw attention to public policy concerns and foster respect for bi+ individuals and communities.
September 25		YOM KIPPUR • Jewish The "Day of Atonement" marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.
September 27		MAWLID AL-NABI (Also known as MILAD AL-NABI) • Islamic (Sunni) The observance of the birthday of Islam founder Prophet Muhammad, which is celebrated in Rabi' al-awwal, the third month in the Islamic calendar. Shi'a Muslims celebrate it five days later than Sunni Muslims.
September 30- October 6		SUKKOT • Jewish The week-long "Feast of Booths" commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.

October 2023

October	Full month	NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH A campaign to unite communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention.
October	Full Month	NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH Recognizes the contributions of workers with disabilities.
October	Full Month	LGBT HISTORY MONTH Marks and celebrates the lives and achievements of lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender people in the United States.
October 2		INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE Marked on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence, a U.N commemoration promoting the principle of non-violence and the desire to secure a culture of peace, tolerance and understanding.
October 5		WORLD TEACHER'S DAY Held annually to commemorate teacher organizations worldwide.
October 7		MAWLID AL-NABI (Also known as MILAD AL-NABI) • Islamic (Shi'a) The observance of the birthday of Islam founder Prophet Muhammad, which is celebrated in Rabi' al-awwal, the third month in the Islamic calendar. Sunni Muslims celebrate it five days earlier than Shi'a Muslims.
October 7		SHEMINI ATZERET • Jewish "The Eighth [Day] of Assembly" observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.
October 8		SIMCHAT TORAH • Jewish "Rejoicing in the Torah" celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch (first five books of the Hebrew Bible) and its beginning anew.
October 9		INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY (Native American Day) Celebrates and honors Native American history and culture. [The second Monday of October is also marked as a U.S. federal holiday, Columbus Day. Many people are opposed to the celebration of a man who led and committed atrocities against Indigenous people. Some states and cities in the U.S. have officially changed the day to Indigenous People's Day. Similarly, it is celebrated as <i>Día de la Raza</i> , "Day of the Race," in Spanish-speaking countries and communities.]
October 11		COMING OUT DAY Encourages honesty and openness about being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Commemorates October 11, 1987, when 500,000 people marched on Washington, DC, for gay and lesbian equality.
October 15-24		NAVARATRI • Hindu Nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. It worships God in the form of the universal mother commonly referred to as Durga, Devi or Shakti, and marks the start of fall.

- October 16** **BIRTH OF THE BÁB • Bahá'í**
Bahá'í observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1819 of Siyyid, "the Báb," the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith, in Shíráz, Persia.
- October 17** **BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í**
Observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1817 of Bahá'u'lláh, prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, in Núr, Persia.
- October 17** **INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY**
Call to action for the eradication of poverty and destitution worldwide.
- October 20** **GUR-GADDI GURU GRANTH SAHIB • Sikh**
Since 1708, Sikhs have accepted Sri Guru Granth Sahib as their eternal Guru that holds the spirit of all Ten Gurus of the Sikhs. They consider Guru Granth Sahib to be a spiritual guide not only for Sikhs but for all of mankind; it plays a central role in guiding the Sikhs' way of life.
- October 24** **DUSSEHRA/DASSERA • Hindu**
Anniversary of the day when Rama killed the evil demon, Ravana. Also known as *Durga Puja*, which celebrates the goddess, Durga.
- October 24** **UNITED NATIONS DAY**
Commemorates the founding of the world organization in 1945.
- October 31** **HALLOWEEN**
The eve of All Saints' Day.
- October 31** **REFORMATION DAY • Christian**
Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in 1517.

November 2023

November	Full Month	NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH Adoptees, birth families, adoptive families and adoption professionals reflect on, educate and celebrate adoption practices.
November	Full Month	NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH Celebrates and honors the history and culture of Native Americans and indigenous people in the United States.
November 1		ALL SAINTS' DAY • Western Christian Commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints. Eastern Orthodox Christianity observes it on the first Sunday after Pentecost.
November 2		ALL SOULS' DAY • Christian Commemoration of all faithful Christians who are now dead. In Mexican tradition it is celebrated as <i>Día de los Muertos</i> between October 31 and November 2, and is an occasion to remember dead ancestors and celebrate the continuity of life.
November 7		ELECTION DAY A day set by U.S. law for the election of public officials.
November 9-10		KRISTALLNACHT Also known as the <i>Night of the Broken Glass</i> , commemorates the 1938 pogrom against Jews throughout Germany and Vienna.
November 11		VETERANS' DAY Honors military veterans and the U.S. Armed Services.
November 12		BANDI-CHHOR DIWAS • Sikh A commemorative occasion having no fixed date which occurs in October or November and celebrates the release of the Sixth Guru Har Gobind Sahib from imprisonment and coincides with Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.
November 12		DIWALI • Hindu Also called <i>Deepavali</i> , "Festival of Lights", it celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.
November 13-17		AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK Celebrates public education and honors individuals who are making a difference in ensuring every child in the U. S. receives a quality education.
November 16		INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE Emphasizes the dangers of intolerance and is a call to action for the advancement of human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as a day to encourage tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures and peoples.
November 20		TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE Memorializes those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice.

November 23

THANKSGIVING DAY

Following a 19th century tradition, it commemorates the Pilgrims' harvest feast in the autumn of 1621. It is considered by some to be a "National Day of Mourning," in recognition of the conquest of Native Americans by colonists.

November 26

DAY OF THE COVENANT • Bahá'í

Day of the Covenant is a festival observed to commemorate Bahá'u'lláh's appointment of His son, Abdu'l-Bahá, as His successor.

November 27

GURU NANAK DEV JI'S BIRTHDAY • Sikh

A very important holiday in the Sikh faith as Guru Nanak Dev's was the First Guru of the Sikhs and the Founder of Sikhism. He was born in mid-November; the holiday is celebrated according to the lunar date.

December 2023

December 1	WORLD AIDS DAY International day of action on HIV and AIDS.
December 3	ADVENT • Western Christian Advent is a season of spiritual preparation in observance of the birth of Jesus Christ. In Western Christianity, it starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. In Eastern Orthodox Christianity, the season is longer and begins in the middle of November.
December 3	INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES Raises awareness about persons with disabilities in order to improve their lives and provide them with equal opportunity.
December 8	BODHI DAY • Buddhist Also known as <i>Rohatsu</i> , commemorates the day that the Buddha, Siddharta Gautama, experienced enlightenment or spiritual awakening (bodhi). Celebrated on the eighth day either of December or the 12th month of the lunar calendar.
December 8-15	HANUKKAH • Jewish Eight-day "Festival of Lights", also known as <i>Chanukah</i> , celebrating the rededication of the Temple to the service of God in 164 BCE. Commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Greek King, Antiochus, who sought to suppress freedom of worship.
December 10	HUMAN RIGHTS DAY On this day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
December 12	OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE • Christian Celebrates the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary (by her title, Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of Mexico and the Americas) before Juan Diego, an indigenous convert to Roman Catholicism, on the Mexican hill of Tepeyac in 1531.
December 15	BILL OF RIGHTS DAY Commemorates the signing into law of the ten original amendments of the United States Constitution in 1791.
December 21	WINTER SOLSTICE Marks the first day of the season of winter. The length of time between sunrise and sunset is the shortest of the year with the sun shining closest to the Southern Hemisphere and the farthest from the Northern Hemisphere.
December 24	CHRISTMAS EVE • Christian Celebration of the arrival of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus.
December 25	CHRISTMAS • Western Christian Commemorates the birth of Jesus.
December 26, 2023-January 1, 2024	KWANZAA A seven-day celebration honoring African American heritage and its continued vitality. "Kwanzaa" means "first fruits (of the harvest)" in Swahili.

December 29

WOUNDED KNEE DAY

On December 29, 1890 more than 200 Lakota Sioux were massacred by U.S. troops at Wounded Knee in South Dakota.

December 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE

In the Gregorian calendar, New Year's Eve, the last day of the year, is on December 31. In many countries, New Year's Eve is celebrated at evening social gatherings, where many people dance, eat, drink. etc.

January 2024

Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Monday	1/1/24	NEW YEAR'S DAY		The first day of the year in the Gregorian calendar, commonly used for civil dating purposes.	
Friday	1/5/24	GURU GOBIND SINGH JI'S BIRTHDAY	Sikh	Guru Gobind Singh was the 10th Sikh guru of Nanak and founder of the Khalsa.	India
Saturday	1/6/24	CHRISTMAS	Armenian Orthodox Christian	The day Armenian Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus. Before the Roman empire adopted Christianity, this was the original day all Christians observed the birth of Jesus.	Armenia
Saturday	1/6/24	EPIPHANY THEOPHANY	Christian	Celebrates the manifestation of Jesus as Christ. The Western Church associates <i>Epiphany</i> with the journey of the Magi to the infant Jesus Christ, and the Eastern Orthodox Church associates <i>Theophany</i> with the baptism of Jesus Christ by John.	
Sunday	1/7/24	CHRISTMAS	Eastern Christian	Commemorating the birth of Jesus, most Orthodox churches celebrate Christmas 13 days later than other Christian churches based on their use of the Julian rather than the Gregorian version of the Western calendar.	
Monday	1/15/24	MAKAR SANKRANTI	Hindu	Seasonal celebration marking turning of the sun toward the north.	Southern Asia
Monday	1/15/24	DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY		The birthday of civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is on January 15 th but it is observed on the third Monday in January.	
Monday	1/15/24 – 1/19/24	NO NAME-CALLING WEEK		Annual week of educational activities aimed at ending name-calling and bullying of all kinds.	
Thursday	1/25/24	MAHAYANA NEW YEAR **	Buddhist	In Mahayana countries the New Year starts on the first full moon day in January. (This date varies from region to region.)	East Asia: China, Japan, Korea
Thursday	1/25/24	TU B'SHVAT	Jewish	New Year's Day for Trees, and traditionally the first of the year for tithing fruit of trees. Now a day for environmental awareness and action, such as tree planting.	
Saturday	1/27/24	INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY		Annual day of commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust coinciding with the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp in 1945.	

February 2024

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Thursday	2/1/24	NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY		Commemorates the signing of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865.	
Thursday	2/1/24 - 2/29/24	BLACK HISTORY MONTH		Celebrates Black History and African American culture in the United States.	
Saturday	2/10/24	LUNAR NEW YEAR *	Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist	Also known as the <i>Spring Festival</i> , an important festival celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar.	East Asia: China, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam
Tuesday	2/13/24	SHROVE TUESDAY	Western Christian	A day of penitence as well as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Also known as <i>Mardi Gras</i> , <i>Fat Tuesday</i> and <i>Carnival Day</i> as this day is observed in many ways worldwide.	Western Europe
Wednesday	2/14/24	VALENTINE'S DAY		Celebrates the idea of romantic love.	
Wednesday	2/14/24	ASH WEDNESDAY	Western Christian	The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.	Western Europe
Thursday	2/15/24	NIRVANA DAY	Buddhist	Celebrates the day when the historical Buddha achieved Parinirvana, or complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body. Sometimes celebrated on February 8.	Asia
Thursday	2/15/24	SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY		A commemorative holiday to celebrate the birth of Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906) and women's suffrage in the United States.	
Monday	2/19/24	PRESIDENTS' DAY		Honors all past presidents of the United States of America.	
Tuesday	2/20/24	WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE		U.N. day to recognize efforts to achieve fair outcomes for all through employment, social protection, social dialogue, and fundamental principles and rights at work.	
Saturday	2/24/24	MAGHA PUJA	Buddhist	Also known as <i>Sangha Day</i> , it commemorates the spontaneous assembly of 1,250 disciples, completely enlightened monks, in the historical Buddha's presence.	Asia
Monday	2/26/24 - 2/29/24	AYYÁM-I-HA OR INTERCALARY DAYS	Bahá'í	A period of celebration devoted to charity, gift-giving and festivities prior to the annual period of fasting.	

March 2024

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Friday	3/1/24 - 3/19/24	NINETEEN-DAY FAST	Bahá'í	Baha'is between 15 and 70 years of age do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset and set aside time for prayer and meditation.	
Friday	3/1/24 - 3/30/24	NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH		Honors women as significant agents of historical change.	
Friday	3/8/24	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY		Celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women worldwide.	
Friday	3/8/24	MAHA SHIVARATRI	Hindu	Also called <i>Shiva Ratri</i> , the Great Night of Shiva, is a festival in reverence of the god Shiva. The festival is celebrated at the 13 th night or 14 th day of the waning moon in the Hindu calendar (month of February or March of the English calendar).	Southern Asia
Monday	3/11/24 - 4/9/24	RAMADAN **	Islamic	Observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting to commemorate the first revelation of the <i>Qur'an</i> to the Prophet Muhammad. (March 11)	Asia, Middle East, North/ West Africa
Sunday	3/17/24	ST. PATRICK'S DAY	Christian	Feast day of the patron saint of Ireland. In the U.S., a secular version is celebrated by people of all faiths through appreciation of all things Irish.	
Monday	3/18/24	CLEAN MONDAY	Eastern Orthodox Christian	The beginning of <i>Great Lent</i> for Eastern Orthodox Christian churches, which starts 40 days before Pascha, counting Sundays.	Eastern European
Tuesday	3/19/24	VERNAL EQUINOX		Marks the first day of the season of spring. The sun shines nearly equally on both hemispheres when it's spring in the Northern Hemisphere and simultaneously fall in the Southern Hemisphere.	
Wednesday	3/20/24	NOWRÚZ (Also known as NAW-RÚZ) *	Zoroastrian (Bahá'í)	Celebrates the first day of Spring and the Iranian New Year, which occurs on the vernal equinox, on or near March 21. Also celebrated as New Year's Day in Baha'i tradition. (This date may vary based on region or sect.)	Iran, Northern India

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Thursday	3/21/24	INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION		Call to action to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination worldwide.	
Sunday	3/24/24	PALM SUNDAY	Western Christian	Observed the Sunday before Easter to commemorate the entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.	Western Europe
Sunday	3/24/24	PURIM *	Jewish	The "Feast of Lots" marks the saving of the Jewish people of ancient Persia from extermination.	
Monday	3/25/24	HOLI	Hindu	A spring festival in India and Nepal dedicated to the god of pleasure, also known as the festival of colors or the festival of sharing love.	Southern Asia
Tuesday	3/26/24	HOLA MOHALLA	Sikh	An annual event which is a martial arts parade historically coinciding with Holi, the Hindu festival of colors. Celebrations related to Holla Mohalla may be held in various locations over several weekends preceding the actual date of the holiday.	India
Tuesday	3/26/24	KHORDAD SAL	Zoroastrian	The Zoroastrian celebration of the birth of Zoroaster, the founder of the Zoroastrianism religion. The holiday is specifically celebrated in India and Iran, immediately following the Persian new year, Nowrúz.	Iran, Northern India
Friday	3/29/24	GOOD FRIDAY *	Western Christian	Commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ on the Friday before Easter. Known as <i>Holy Friday</i> in Eastern Orthodox Christianity.	Western Europe
Sunday	3/31/24	EASTER *	Western Christian	Known as <i>Pascha</i> in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.	Western Europe
Sunday	3/31/24	CESAR CHAVEZ DAY		Honors Mexican American farm worker, labor leader and activist Cesar Chavez (1927–1993) who was a nationally respected voice for social justice.	

April 2024

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Monday	4/1/24 - 4/30/24	ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH		Celebrates the Arab American heritage and culture and pays tribute to the contributions of Arab Americans and Arabic-speaking Americans.	
Monday	4/1/24 - 4/30/24	GENOCIDE AWARENESS MONTH		A month that marks important anniversaries for past and contemporary genocides. Throughout the month, individuals, communities and organizations join together to remember and honor victims and survivors of mass atrocities.	
Monday	4/1/24 - 4/30/24	NATIONAL POETRY MONTH		Introduced in 1996 by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States.	
Saturday	4/6/24	LAILAT AL-QADR	Islamic	Commemorates the night that the <i>Qur'an</i> was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. It is known as the "Night of Power." Often set on the 27th day of Ramadan, Sunnis may observe it on the 21st, 23rd, 25th or 29th and Shi'ite (Shiite) observe it on the 19th, 21st or 23rd day of Ramadan.	Asia, Middle East, North/ West Africa
Wednesday	4/10/24	EID AL-FITR *	Islamic	The "Feast of the Breaking of the Fast" marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting from dawn until dusk.	Asia, Middle East, North/ West Africa
Saturday	4/13/24	VAISAKHI (also spelled Baisakhi)	Sikh	The festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated). On this day, Sikhs gather and celebrate Vaisakhi at their local Gurdwaras (Sikh house of worship) by remembering this day as the birth of the Khalsa.	India
Wednesday	4/17/24	RAMA NAVAMI	Hindu	Celebrates the birthday of Rama, king of ancient India, hero of the epic Ramayana, and seventh incarnation of Vishnu.	Southern Asia
Saturday	4/20/24 - 5/1/24	FESTIVAL OF RIDVÁN **	Bahá'í	Annual festival commemorating the 12 days when Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, resided in a garden called Ridván (Paradise) and publicly proclaimed his mission as God's messenger for this age. The first (April 20), ninth (April 29), and twelfth (May 1) days are celebrated as holy days when Baha'is suspend work.	

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Tuesday	4/23/24 - 4/30/24	PASSOVER/ PESACH **	Jewish	The eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread" celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. (April 23-4, April 29-30)	
Wednesday	4/24/24	THERAVADA NEW YEAR	Buddhist	In Theravada countries the New Year is celebrated on the first full moon day in April.	Southeast Asia: Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand
Wednesday	4/24/24	ARMENIAN MARTYRS' DAY		Memorializes the genocide of approximately 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923 in Turkey.	
Sunday	4/28/24	PALM SUNDAY	Eastern Orthodox Christian	Observed the Sunday before Pascha to commemorate the entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.	Eastern European
Friday		DAY OF SILENCE		Students take a day-long vow of silence to protest the actual silencing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQIA+) students and their straight allies due to bias and harassment.	

May 2024

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Wednesday	5/1/24	INTERNATIONAL WORKER'S DAY		Also known as <i>May Day</i> , it celebrates the social and economic achievements of workers worldwide. The day commemorates the Haymarket Riot of 1886 in Chicago, in which police and protesters clashed following a workers' strike for an eight-hour work day.	
Wednesday	5/1/24 - 5/31/24	ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH (also known as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month)		Recognizes the contributions and celebrates the culture of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States.	
Wednesday	5/1/24 - 5/31/24	JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH		Recognizes the history of Jewish contributions to American culture, acknowledging the diverse achievements of American Jews.	
Thursday	5/2/24	HOLY THURSDAY	Eastern Orthodox Christian	Also known as <i>Maundy Thursday</i> , it is celebrated on the Thursday before Pascha commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus Christ and the Apostles were together for the last time before the Crucifixion.	Eastern European
Friday	5/3/24	HOLY FRIDAY *	Eastern Orthodox Christian	Commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ on the Friday before Pascha. Known as <i>Good Friday</i> in Western Christianity.	Eastern European
Friday	5/3/24	WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY		Serves as an occasion to inform the public of violations of the right to freedom of expression and as a reminder that many journalists brave death or jail to bring people their daily news.	
Sunday	5/5/24	PASCHA *	Eastern Orthodox Christian	Known as <i>Easter</i> in Western Christianity, it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.	Eastern European
Sunday	5/5/24	CINCO DE MAYO		Commemorates Mexico's victory over the French occupational forces at the Battle of Puebla in 1862.	
Monday	5/6/24	YOM HASHOAH *	Jewish	"Holocaust Remembrance Day" memorializes the heroic martyrdom of six million Jews who perished in the Nazi Holocaust.	

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Thursday	5/9/24	ASCENSION DAY	Western Christian	Also known as <i>Holy Thursday</i> , celebrated 40 days after Easter, it commemorates the ascension of Jesus into Heaven.	Western Europe
Sunday	5/12/24	MOTHER'S DAY		Children of all ages show appreciation for their mothers and mother figures.	
Sunday	5/19/24	PENTECOST	Western Christian	Also known as <i>Whitsunday</i> , the seventh Sunday after Easter commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and women followers of Jesus Christ. Marks the birth of the Christian Church.	Western Europe
Tuesday	5/21/24	WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY		Recognizes cultural diversity as a source of innovation, exchange and creativity, as well as the obligation to create a more peaceful and equitable society based on mutual respect.	
Thursday	5/23/24	VISAKHA PUJA	Buddhist	Also known as <i>Vesak</i> or <i>Buddha Day</i> , it marks the birth, spiritual awakening and death (nirvana) of the historical Buddha. (This date may vary based on region or sect.)	Asia
Thursday	5/23/24	DECLARATION OF THE BÁB *	Bahá'í	Commemoration of May 23, 1844, when the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith, announced in Shíráz, Persia, that he was the herald of a new messenger of God.	
Sunday	5/26/24	LAG B'OMER	Jewish	Celebrates the end of a divine-sent plague and/or Roman occupation during Rabbi Akiva's lifetime (died c. 135 CE).	
Monday	5/27/24	MEMORIAL DAY		A federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces.	
Tuesday	5/28/24	ASCENSION OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH *	Bahá'í	Observance of the anniversary of the death in exile of Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith.	

June 2024

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Saturday	6/1/24 - 6/30/24	LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH		Commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riot in New York City, the incident that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States.	
Wednesday	6/5/24	WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY (WED)		The United Nations' most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment.	
Wednesday	6/12/24	ANNE FRANK DAY		Birthday of young Jewish girl whose diary describes her family's experiences hiding from the Nazis through assistance of Gentile friends.	
Wednesday	6/12/24	LOVING DAY		Observes the anniversary of the 1967 United States Supreme Court decision <i>Loving v. Virginia</i> which struck down the miscegenation laws remaining in 16 states barring interracial marriage.	
Wednesday	6/12/24 - 6/13/24	SHAVUOT *	Jewish	The "Feast of Weeks" celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.	
Thursday	6/13/24	ASCENSION DAY	Eastern Orthodox Christian	Also known as <i>Holy Ascension</i> , celebrated 40 days after Pascha, it commemorates the ascension of Jesus Christ into Heaven.	Eastern European
Friday	6/14/24	FLAG DAY		Anniversary of the adoption of the United States flag by Congress in 1777.	
Sunday	6/16/24	EID AL-ADHA *	Islamic	Commemoration of Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience of a command from God. Marks the end of the annual Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).	Asia, Middle East, North/West Africa
Sunday	6/16/24	FATHER'S DAY		Children of all ages show appreciation for their fathers and father figures.	
Wednesday	6/19/24	JUNETEENTH		Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the U.S. to honor African American freedom and achievement.	
Thursday	6/20/24	SUMMER SOLSTICE		Marks the first day of the season of summer. The length of time between sunrise and sunset is the longest of the year with the sun shining the farthest from the Southern Hemisphere and the closest to the Northern Hemisphere.	

Start Day	Start Date	Name	Religion	Description	Region (generalized)
Thursday	6/20/24	WORLD REFUGEE DAY		Raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.	
Sunday	6/23/24	PENTECOST	Eastern Orthodox Christian	The seventh Sunday after Pascha commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and women followers of Jesus Christ.	Eastern European
Wednesday	6/26/24	ANNIVERSARY OF LEGALIZATION OF SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN THE U.S.		On June 26, 2015, in the case of <i>Obergefell v. Hodges</i> , the Supreme Court ruled that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples.	
Sunday	6/30/24	ALL SAINTS' DAY	Eastern Orthodox Christian	In Orthodox churches observed on the first Sunday after Pentecost, it commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints.	Eastern European