



# Equity & Inclusion CALENDAR

## MARCH 2022

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**Women's History Month**, and National Women's History Month began as a single week and as a local event. In 1978, Sonoma County, California, sponsored a women's history week to promote the teaching of women's history. The week of March 8th was selected to include 'International Women's Day.' This day is rooted in such ideas and events as a woman's right to vote and a woman's right to work, women's strikes for bread, women's strikes for peace at the end of World War I, and the U.N. Charter declaration of gender equality at the end of World War II. This day is an occasion to review how far women have come in their struggle for equality, peace and development. In 1981, Congress passed a resolution making the week a national celebration, and in 1987 expanded it to the full month of March.

**National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**, a time to raise awareness about the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all areas of community life, as well as awareness to the barriers that people with disabilities still sometimes face in connecting to the communities in which they live.

**1: Shivratri (Hindu):** On Shiva's night, the Hindu deity Lord Shiva performed the Tandav, the cosmic dance of creation and destruction. A 24-hour fast is kept and devotees make pilgrimages to major shrines for worship.

**1: Lailat al Miraj (Muslim):** A Muslim holiday commemorating Muhammad's journey from Mecca to Jerusalem where he ascended into heaven.

**1: Zero Discrimination Day (UN):** celebrates the right of everyone to live a full and productive life—and live it with dignity. Zero Discrimination Day highlights how people can become informed about and promote inclusion, compassion, peace and, above all, a movement for change. Zero Discrimination Day is helping to create a global movement of solidarity to end all forms of discrimination.

**3: Ash Wednesday (Christian):** This day in the Christian Church marks the start of Lent, the 40-day period of prayer and fasting before Easter.

**5: Crispus Attucks Day:** Crispus Attucks was the first American to die during the Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770, a key event leading up to the Revolutionary War. For this reason, he is considered the first American fatality of the War. Crispus Attucks Day, or Boston Massacre Day, has been observed since 1771, mainly in Boston, Massachusetts. Since 1949, Crispus Attucks Day has also been a legal day of observance in the state of New Jersey.

**8: International Women's Day (UN),** According to one source, a women's march in New York in 1857 provided the inspiration for the day. Others claim that it began as a commemoration of a strike by women needle trades workers in New York City in 1908. International Women's Day was revived in the 1960s and in 1975 the U.N. began sponsoring this day.

**10: National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NWHAAD):** Since the inception of this day in 2005, NWHAAD's goal has been to raise awareness about how women can protect themselves and their partners from HIV. This day brings organizations and communities together to help women and girls protect themselves from HIV through prevention, testing and treatment.



**13 - April 15: Deaf History Month**, commemorates the achievements of people who are deaf and/or hard of hearing. The time frame is spread across March and April in recognition of three turning points in deaf education history dating back to the early 1800s, including the founding of Gallaudet University and the American School for the Deaf.

**16: Purim (Jewish):** one of the most joyous and fun holidays on the Jewish calendar. It celebrates the Jewish people's deliverance from a royal death decree around the fourth century BCE, as told in the Book of Esther.

**17: St. Patrick's Day:** The death anniversary of their patron saint. He used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Christian idea of the Holy Trinity, thus the idea of wearing a shamrock.





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**18: Holi (Hindu/Sikh):** This festival of color celebrates Spring, where people play with liquid and powdered colors, light bonfires and blow horns to celebrate the destruction of Holika.

**18: Laylat al-Bara'ah (Muslim):** According to the Hadith, 15th night of Shabaan is special as the night attains its name of Laylat al-Bara' ah, meaning the Night of Salvation, Seeking Freedom from torture and calamity, is that in this night the Barkaah and acceptance of repentance may be accomplished.

**21: World Down Syndrome Day:** is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. The date for WDSO being the 21st day of the 3rd month, was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome.

**21: Int'l Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN):** observed annually on 21 March. On that day, in 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa, against the apartheid "pass laws". Proclaiming the Day in 1966, the General Assembly called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination

**22: Emancipation Day (Puerto Rico):** commemorates the abolition of slavery from its island in 1873.

**22: World Water Day (UN):** celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water. It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis. A core focus of World Water Day is to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030.

**25: Annunciation (Christian):** commemorates the day Jesus' mother, Mary was visited by an angel to inform her that she was blessed and chosen to be the mother of Christ.

**25: International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (UN):** For over 400 years, more than 15 million men, women, and children were the victims of the tragic transatlantic slave trade, one of the darkest chapters in human history. This day offers the opportunity to honor and remember those who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal slavery system and also aims to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today.

**26: Kuhio Day (Hawaii):** A State holiday, it celebrates Prince Kuhio's birthday, 1871. He is remembered for actively promoting Hawaiian culture and getting Congress to pass the 1920 Hawaiian Homes Act, providing homesteads for native Hawaiians.

**31: Transgender Day of Visibility:** A day dedicated to recognizing the resilience and accomplishments of the transgender community. On this day, we celebrate the trans people amongst us, raise awareness about the struggles that they face, and advocate for more protected rights for them in a bid to reform society and empower this community — as it so rightfully deserves.

**31: Cesar E. Chavez National Holiday:** This holiday, proclaimed by President Obama in 2014, honors the Mexican-American labor and civil rights activist who gained attention in the 1960s as the leader of the United Farm Workers. His non-violent advocacy approach earned him worldwide respect. California, Arizona and Texas have made the day a state holiday, while other states are still considering doing so.

