

Diversity Calendar

2016/2017

Diversity Calendar 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, their 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 opportunity for a teachable moment regarding ethnic or cultural diversity that might not otherwise be discussed, particularly those 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. This was an enormous task taken on by a handful of individuals of good will and intention. If you know of another date that meets the above criteria and therefore should have been included, or if there is a date listed that does not meet the criteria and therefore should not have been included, please contact Ilsa Govan at ilsa.govan@culturesconnecting.com.

Additional Information

If you know of appropriate websites, books, or other resources email [Ilsa Govan](mailto:Ilsa.Govan). Also, please inform us of any websites that were inappropriately chosen to explain a particular day.

Diversity Calendar

2016/2017

Acknowledgements

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- Ilsa Govan, Equity & Race Specialist
- Rebecca Snyders, Administrative Assistant, Cultures Connecting

Diversity Calendar Committee Members:

- Caprice Hollins, Director of Equity and Race Relations
- 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.*

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

Muslim holidays are based on actual sighting of the moon and therefore the day may vary.

Diversity Calendar 2016/2017

September 2016 Hispanic Heritage Month			
9	Hajj	http://www.religioustolerance.org/isla1.htm	Islamic
11	Enkutatash (New Year)	http://rastaites.com/Ethiopia/newyear.htm	Ethiopian
12*	Eid-ul-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	http://www.religioustolerance.org/isl_feast.htm	Islamic
15	Tet Trung Thu (Vietnam) Moon Festival (Hong Kong, China, Taiwan) ChuSok (Korea)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mid-Autumn_Festival	Vietnam, Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Korea
16	Mexican Independence Day	http://www.presidiolabahia.org/mex_ind.htm	Mexican
22-23*	Mabon	https://wicca.com/celtic/akasha/mabon.htm	Neo-Pagan

October 2016 Cultural Diversity Month/Coming Out Month/Filipino American History Month			
1-16	Dashain	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dasain	Nepalese
2-4*	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday2.htm	Jewish
2-30*	AlHijra/Muharram	http://www.islamicity.com/articles/Articles.asp?ref=IC0303-1877	Islamic
10	Indigenous People's Day/Columbus Day	http://www.homemadejam.org/rethinking-columbus.html http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Columbus_Day?	United States
11	National Coming Out Day	http://www.hrc.org/ncod/	LGBTQ and Allies
11*	Ashura	http://www.religionfacts.com/islam/holidays/ashura.htm	Islamic
11*	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsourc/Judaism/holiday4.html	Jewish
12	Día de la Raza	http://zedillo.presidencia.gob.mx/welcome/PAGES/culture/note_12oct.html	Latin America, Mexican
16-23*	Sukkot	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday5.htm	Jewish
23*	Shemini Atzeret	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
24*	Simchat Torah	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
30	Diwali	http://hinduism.about.com/od/diwalifestivaloflights/a/diwali.htm	Hindu, Jain, Sikh, Buddhist
31	Halloween	http://www.history.com/topics/halloween <i>Keep in mind that not all families view Halloween positively.</i>	USA

Diversity Calendar 2016/2017

31-Nov 1	Samhain	http://www.witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usaz&c=holidays&id=12905	Neo-Pagan
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November 2016 Native American Heritage Month

1*	Birth of the Báb	http://bahai-invitation.com/feast/fhd08.html	Bahá'i
1	All Saint's Day	http://www.churchyear.net/allsaints.html	Anglican & Roman Catholic
1 & 2	Día de los Muertos	http://archive.azcentral.com/ent/dead/articles/dead-history.html	Mexican
2*	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	http://birth-of-baha-u-llah.123holiday.net/	Bahá'i
11	Veterans Day	http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp	USA
14	Birthday of Guru Nanak	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/sikhism/people/nanak.shtml	Sikh
20	Transgender Day of Remembrance	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transgender_Day_of_Remembrance	International
24	Thanksgiving	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanksgiving_(United_States) Keep in mind that not all families view Thanksgiving positively. http://americanindiansource.com/mourningday.html	European American

December 2016

8	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bodhi_Day	Buddhist
8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feast_of_the_Immaculate_Conception	Catholic
12	Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Our_Lady_of_Guadalupe	Mexican Catholic
16-24	Las Posadas	http://www.britannica.com/topic/Las-Posadas	Mexican
16-24	Simbang Gabi (Christmas)	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simbang_Gabi	Filipino Catholic
21	Winter Solstice/Yule	https://wicca.com/celtic/akasha/yule.htm	Neo-Pagan
24-1*	Hanukkah	http://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/default_cdo/jewish/Chanukah.htm	Jewish
25	Christmas	http://www.history.com/topics/christmas	Christian
26- Jan 1	Kwanzaa	http://www.history.com/topics/kwanzaa-history	African American

Diversity Calendar 2016/2017

January 2017

1	New Year's Day	http://www.infoplease.com/spot/newyearhistory.html	International
5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guru_Gobind_Singh	Sikh
6	Día de los Reyes (Three Kings Day/Epiphany)	http://www.inside-mexico.com/ReyesMagos.htm	Mexican Christian
7	Christmas (Orthodox)	http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/russia/christmas-day	Orthodox Christian
16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Luther_King_Jr._Day	USA
28	Lunar New Year (Year of the Rooster)	http://www.asianamericanbooks.com/lny_ch_a.htm#general	China, Taiwan, Viet Nam, Singapore, Korea

February 2017

African American History Month

1	Imbolc(g)	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imbolc	Neo-Pagan
14	Valentine's Day	http://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day <i>Be mindful that not all of our students celebrate Valentine's Day.</i>	International
19	Day of Remembrance (Japanese Incarceration)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Day_of_Remembrance_(Japanese_Americans)	USA
20	President's Day Holiday	http://usparks.about.com/library/weekly/aa021499.htm	USA

March 2017

Women's History Month/Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

1	Ash Wednesday	http://christianity.about.com/od/holidaytips/qt/whatisashwednes.htm	Christian
1-April 13	Lenten Season	http://wilstar.com/holidays/lent.htm <i>Many Filipino families return to the Philippines during this time.</i>	Christian
8	Internatn'l Women's Day	https://www.internationalwomensday.com/About	International
11*	Purim	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday9.htm	Jewish
13	Holi	http://www.holifestival.org/holi-festival.html http://www.festivalofcolor.us/?q=Significance	Hindu
17	St. Patrick's Day	http://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day	Irish
20	Ostara	http://www.witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usma&c=holidays&id=1991	Neo-Pagan

Diversity Calendar 2016/2017

20	Persian New Year (Nowruz)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nowruz	Iranian
21	Naw Ruz	http://www.funsocialstudies.learninghaven.com/edu/naw-ruz.html	Bahá'i
21	Intern'l Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Day_for_the_Elimination_of_Racial_Discrimination	International
31	César Chávez Day	http://www.ufw.org/_page.php?menu=research&inc=history/07.html	USA

April 2017 Holocaust Remembrance Month			
6	National Tartan Day	http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/national-tartan-day	Scottish American
9	Palm Sunday	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palm_Sunday	Christian/Orthodox
9-15	Holy Week	http://www.crivoice.org/cyholyweek.html	Christian
10-18*	Pesach/Passover	http://www.jewfaq.org/holidaya.htm	Jewish
14	Vaisakhi	http://www.sikhiwiki.org/index.php?title=Vaisakhi	Sikh
14	Good Friday	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Good_Friday	Christian/Orthodox
14-16	Bun Pi Mai (New Year)	http://goseasia.about.com/od/laos/a/bun_pi_mai.htm <i>Begins on the first full moon of April</i>	Laotian
15	National Day of Silence	http://www.dayofsilence.org/	LGBTQ and Allies
16	Easter Sunday	http://www.religionfacts.com/christianity/holidays/easter.htm	Christian
16	Orthodox Easter/Pascha	http://www.factmonster.com/spot/easter1.html	Eastern Orthodox
20-21*	First Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.com/walbridge_encyclopedia_ridvan	Bahá'i
23*	Holocaust Remembrance Day	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/yomhashoah.html	International
28*	Ninth Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.com/walbridge_encyclopedia_ridvan	Bahá'i

May 2017 Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month			
1*	Beltane	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beltane	Neo-Pagan
1	May Day (International Worker's Day)	http://www.iww.org/projects/mayday/origins.shtml	International
1*	Twelfth Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.com/walbridge_encyclopedia_ridvan	Bahá'i

Diversity Calendar 2016/2017

5	Cinco de Mayo	http://www.mexonline.com/cinco.htm	USA/Mexican
10	Vesak	http://www.buddhanet.net/vesak.htm	Buddhist
14	Mother's Day	http://www.bajainsider.com/baja-life/holidays/mothersdaymexico.html Mother's Day (always May 10 th in Mexico) is very important for Mexican Families.	Mexican
23*	Declaration of the Báb	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/bahai/holydays/declarationbab.shtml	Bahá'i
27-June 25	Ramadan	http://www.colostate.edu/orgs/MSA/events/Ramadan.html	Islamic
29*	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	http://www.readthespirit.com/religious-holidays-festivals/tag/bahauallah/	Bahá'i
29	Memorial Day Holiday	http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history	USA
30*	Shavuot	http://www.holidays.net/shavuot/	Jewish

June 2017 LGBTQ Pride Month

4	Pentecost	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/holydays/pentecost.shtml	Christian
12	Loving Day	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loving_Day	USA
12	Philippine Independence Day	http://www.msc.edu.ph/centennial/independence.html	Filipino
19	Juneteenth	http://www.pbs.org/wnet/african-americans-many-rivers-to-cross/history/what-is-juneteenth/	African American
21	Summer Solstice/Litha	http://paganwiccan.about.com/od/lithathesummersolstice/a/AllAboutLitha.htm	Neo-Pagan
25	Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	http://islam.about.com/od/ramadan/f/eid_fitr.htm	Islamic
25-26	Pride	http://seattlepride.org/	LGBTQ and Allies

July 2017

July 9	Dharma Day	http://www.beliefnet.com/Faiths/Buddhism/Dharma-Day-A-Universal-Celebration-of-The-Buddhas-Teachings.aspx	Buddhist
July 11	17th of Tammuz	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventeenth_of_Tammuz	Jewish
23	Birthday of Haile Selassie	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haile_Selassie_I	Rastafarian
July 31*	Tisha B'Av	http://www.jewfaq.org/holidayd.htm	Jewish

Diversity Calendar 2016/2017

August 2017

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1	Lughnasadh (Lammas)	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/paganism/holydays/lughnasadh.shtml	Neo-Pagan
12	International Youth Day	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Youth_Day	International
13-15	Obon	http://www.buddhistchurch.com/events/Obon.htm	Japanese Buddhist

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