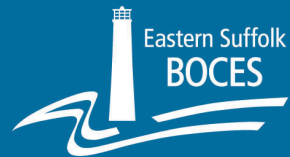


# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity

Advancing Equitable Opportunities



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## January Cultural Heritage Highlights



Civilizations around the world have been celebrating the start of each new year for at least four millennia. In some countries, January 1 starts the New Year according to the Gregorian calendar, which is the calendar in use by 168 countries, as of 2021 data.

**About 4000 years ago, Julius Caesar announced January 1 be the national New Year holiday in honor the Roman god Janus. Janus had two faces, one looking back and one looking forward.**

[Learn More about New Years day in other cultures](#)



### World Braille Day- What is it?

We celebrate World Braille Day every year on January 4th because it's [Louis Braille's](#) birthday. He's the inventor of braille! Louis was born in 1809 in France and became blind after a childhood accident. But he quickly mastered his new way of living.

[Learn more about Braille Day](#)

[Learn more about Braille](#)



### Three Kings Day – January 6, 2023

In Mexico and many other Latin American countries, Santa Claus isn't as popular as he is in the United States. Rather, it is the Three Wise Men who are the bearers of gifts and leave presents in or near the shoes of small children. The holiday is also known by the name Epiphany and dates back to the 4th century. A grand feast would be held on this day to honor the occasion of Jesus' baptism and to pay homage to the Three Wise Men.

[Find out more about Three Kings Day](#)





### The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Martin Luther King Day for the year 2023 is celebrated/ observed on Monday, January 16th, which is close to King's actual birthday on January 15. An advocate of nonviolent activism, Dr. King became the youngest man to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize. His life came to an abrupt and untimely end when he was assassinated in 1968 in Tennessee. MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a National Day of Service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. believed in a nation of freedom and justice for all, and encouraged all citizens to live up to the purpose and potential of

America by applying the principles of nonviolence. MLK Day of Service is a way to honor his life and teachings by engaging in community action that continues to solve social problems.

[Watch a video about Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service](#)

[Opportunities to get involved](#)

[Virtual Martin Luther King \(MLK\) Exhibition](#)



### [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)

'What is abnormal is that I am normal. That I survived the Holocaust and went on. That is what is abnormal.' Elie Wiesel, survivor of the Holocaust

The United Nations General Assembly designated January 27—the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau—as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. On this annual day of commemoration, the UN urges every member state to honor the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust

[Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 Theme vision Ordinary People](#)

[The Power of Place: 2023](#)

[Conversations with Holocaust Survivors: Event](#)



January is National Poverty in America Awareness Month. This holiday aims to recognize the severe conditions of poverty that many are living in. Yes, the U.S. may be a developed nation and one of the greatest countries in the world, but there are still thousands of people who are deprived of three meals a day, quality education, and even clean and healthy drinking water. In 1964 President Lyndon Johnson declared an unconditional war on poverty to relieve, cure, and prevent it.

[Watch a video about National Poverty in America Awareness Month](#)

[Learn More about National Poverty in America Awareness Month](#)

