

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity

Advancing Equitable Opportunities



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December Cultural Heritage Highlights

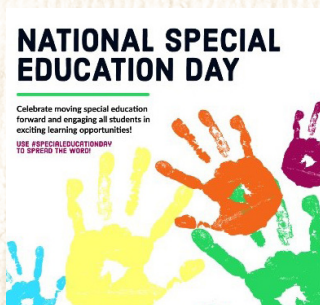


December 3 is recognized as International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) 2022. The theme this year is "Transformative solutions for inclusive development: the role of innovation in fuelling an accessible and equitable world".

The annual observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) on 3 December was proclaimed in 1992 by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3. The observance of the Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.

The 2022 global observance to commemorate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities will be around the overarching theme of innovation and transformative solutions for inclusive development.

[Find out more about International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)



Special Education Day – December 2, 2022

Special Education Day is celebrated on December 2 to celebrate the signing of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act into law on this day in 1975 (IDEA). IDEA granted access to children with special needs to free and quality public education. #SpecialEducationDay Shout out to everyone here at ESBOCES who support our students and Special Education programs!

Find out more, [HISTORY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DAY](#)



[December 21 winter solstice](#) Winter solstice 2022 occurs on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 4:48 p.m. EST for the Northern Hemisphere. For this reason, it is also known as the December solstice. The term "solstice" comes from the Latin words sol (Sun) and sistere (to stand still) because, during the solstice, the angle between the Sun's rays and the plane of the Earth's equator (called declination) appears to stand still.

So what does that mean, exactly? Upon the winter solstice, the Sun appears at its lowest in the sky, and its noontime elevation seems to stay the same for several days before and after this day. The Sun's gradual decrease in the sky reverses upon the winter solstice, marking what many cultures believe to be a "rebirth" of the Sun as the hours of daylight become longer.

[Winter Solstice Event](#)



[Chanukah \(Hanukkah\) 2022](#) starts at nightfall on [December 18, 2022](#) and ends with nightfall on [December 26, 2022](#). Hanukkah, is the Jewish Festival of Lights lasts for eight days and nights. Hanukkah, which means “dedication,” commemorates the miracle of light that occurred when Judah rededicated the Temple to the Hebrew god. Watch this video to find out more: <https://youtu.be/4EkgtbMzphw>

[Find out more about Hanukkah](#)



Heri Za Kwanzaa! Kwanzaa, celebrated from December 26 to January 1, is an African American and pan-African seven-day cultural holiday that celebrates family and community. During the holiday, families celebrate with feasts, music, and dance, and end the holiday with a day dedicated to reflection and recommitment to the seven principles.

[To learn more about Kwanza](#)

[5 Things you may not know about Kwanza](#)



December 25 Christmas

[Christmas](#), an annual holiday that commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ, is celebrated in unique ways in different countries. Shaped by cultural norms, Christmas celebrations often have local flair. In Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, Christians display nativity scenes and mark their doors with crosses. They fill churches on Christmas Eve to watch an annual procession. In Syria, children wait for presents from the youngest of the three wise men's camels, not Santa. In Mexico, for example, Las Posadas is celebrated from December 16 to December 24, to commemorate Mary and Joseph's effort to find an inn and the events associated with the birth of Jesus.

