

## 2024-2025 Religious and Cultural Observances

### **Chart One: Religious Days of Highest Impact During the School Week**

*(Dates to avoid scheduling events or activities on. Pay special attention to dates marked SD because events and activities should also not be scheduled the night before the date listed. Expect some student observers to be out of school.)*

Representational of the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Islamic, Baha’i, Buddhist, Sikh, Non-Denominational Christian, and Neo Pagan religions.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of Observance</b>	<b>Religion</b>	<b>Notes</b> <b>SD = Starts at sun down the night before the date listed, ends at sun down on the date listed.</b>
7/17/2024	Ashura	Islamic	SD *Date not fixed, but often stays within 1 to 2 days of the date listed
10/3/2024-10/4/2024	Rosh Hashanah	Jewish	SD
10/3/2024-10/4/2024	Feast of Trumpets	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
10/12/2024	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	SD
10/16/2024-10/23/2024 (High Days are first, last, and Sabbath)	Feast of Tabernacles (first and last days, and Sabbath)	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
11/1/2024	Diwali	Hindu	
11/3/2024	Birth of Bahá’u’lláh	Baha’i	SD
12/24/2024	Christmas Eve	Christian	During Winter Break
12/25/2024	Christmas Day	Christian	During Winter Break
12/26/2024-1/2/2025	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	SD
1/29/2025	Lunar New Year	East and South Asian Culture	
3/14/2025	Holi	Hindu	SD
3/20/2025	Nowruz (Persian New Year)	Zoroastrian, Iranian	
3/20/2025	Easter	Christian	
3/30/2025	Ugadi/Yugadi New Year	Telugu/Kannada	
3/31/2025	Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramadan)	Islamic	SD *Date not fixed, but often stays within 1 to 2 days of the date listed
4/13/2025-4/20/2025	Passover	Jewish	SD
4/13/2025-4/20/2025	Feast of Unleavened Bread (Last Day)	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
4/14/2025	Vaisakhi/ Vishu New Year	Sikh/Tamil	

**Chart Two: Days of Fasting During the School Week**

*(Dates to acknowledge and be sensitive to student observers' needs due to fasting)*

Representational of the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Islamic, Baha'i, Buddhist, Sikh, Non-Denominational Christian, and Neo Pagan religions.

Date	Name of Observance	Religion	Notes SD = Starts at sun down the night before the date listed, ends at sun down on the date listed.
7/17/2024	Ashura	Islamic	SD
8/26/2024	Janmashtami	Hindu	SD
9/6/2024	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	SD
10/12/2024	Yom Kippur	Jewish	SD
10/12/2024	Day of Atonement	Non-Denominational Christian	SD
3/1/2025-3/29/2025	Ramadan	Islamic	*Dates not fixed, but often stay within 1 to 2 days of the dates listed.
3/1/2025-3/19/2025	The Baha'i Fast	Baha'i	SD
3/5/2025-4/17/2025	Lent	Christian	
3/8/2024	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	
5/18/2025	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian	

**Chart Three: Full Religious and Cultural Observances Calendar**

*(A working document for education and awareness)*

Representational of the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Islamic, Baha'i, Buddhist, Sikh, Non-Denominational Christian, and Neo Pagan religions

(SD) for observances starting at sundown the night prior

Day of fasting for observers

Day of highest impact for observers

**June 2024**

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
6/15/2024-6/19/2024 (SD)	Hajj	Islamic	Pilgrimage to Mecca
6/16/2024 (SD)	Day of Arafat	Islamic	Second day of the pilgrimage to Mecca
6/17/2024	Eid al-Adha *dates not fixed	Islamic	Marks the sacrifice feast, honors Ibrahim's sacrifice of his son on Allah's orders, festival takes place

## July 2024

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
7/7/2024	Muharram	Islamic	The first month of the Islamic calendar, also known as the Lunar or Hijri calendar, marks the beginning of the Islamic New Year. It is a day to mourn and remember Hussein ibn Ali
7/17/2024 (SD) 7/17/2023 (SD)	Ashura	Islamic	Tenth day of Muharram, Sunni Muslims fast, some students will not go to school

## August 2024

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
8/26/2024 (SD)	Janmashtami	Hindu	Celebrates the birth of Krishma, celebrated in evening, most observers fast the whole day and eat after midnight

## September 2024

### *Hispanic and Latino/a/x Heritage Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
9/15/2024-10/15/2024	Hispanic and Latino/a/x Heritage Month	Hispanic and Latino Culture	Celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of those from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.
9/2/2024	Labor Day	U.S. Culture	Dedication to working people across the U.S.
9/6/2024 (SD)	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	Honor Ganapathi. Observers fast for the day until the next morning after they have offered prayers, ten day festival takes place
9/11/2024	Enkutatash	Ethiopian Culture	Celebrate the first day of the new year
9/16/2024 (SD)	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islamic	Celebrate the birth of the Prophet Muhammad
9/16/2024-9/18/2024	Chuseok	Korean Culture	Celebrate Korean Thanksgiving Day
9/17/2024	Tet Trung Thu	Vietnamese Culture	Celebrate the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival
9/17/2024	Moon Festival	Celebrated in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, and Vietnam Cultures	Celebrate harvest, gathering, giving, and praying

9/22/2024	Mabon	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the second harvest and the changing of seasons
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## October 2024

### *National Disability Employment Awareness Month & Hindu Heritage Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
10/1/2024-10/31/2024	Disability History and Awareness Month	U.S. Culture	Increase awareness, respect, and acceptance for people with disabilities, and to bring a greater sense of pride to people with disabilities
10/1/2024-10/31/2024	Hindu Heritage Month	Hindu	Hindu American Awareness and Appreciation Month seeks to bring local awareness, recognition and acknowledgment of the significant contributions made by Hindu Americans across the United States
10/3/2024-10/4/2024 (SD)	Rosh Hashanah	Jewish	Celebrate the New Year, celebrate with family gatherings, non-work day for observers, some students do not go to school
10/3/2024-10/4/2024 (SD)	Feast of Trumpets	Christian	First of the Fall Holy Days, depicts the day Christ will return to this world, non-work day for observers, some students do not go to school
10/3/2024-10/12/2024	Dashain Festival	Nepalese Culture	Celebrate the Gods' victory over demons, fifteen day festival
10/3/2024-10/12/2024	Navratri/Dussehra	Hindu	Honor Goddess Durga over a span of nine nights
10/4/2024	Feast of St. Francis of Assisi	Christian	Practice gratitude, spend time with an animal, pray, church service
10/10/2024	Birth of the Guru Granth	Sikh	Celebrate the birth of Guru Granth Sahib
10/11/2024	National Coming Out Day	U.S. Culture	A day of empowerment, visibility, and celebration of belonging for and with LGBTQIA+ individuals
10/12/2024 (SD)	Yom Kippur	Jewish	The Day of Atonement, special service in synagogue, 25 hour fast, non-work day for observers, majority of students will not be at school
10/12/2024 (SD)	Day of Atonement	Non-Denominational Christian	Day of fasting, portrays the human race finally becoming at one with God
10/12/2024	Dia de la Raza	Latin American Culture	Celebrate Latina/o/x heritage and culture
10/14/2024	Indigenous Peoples' Day	U.S. Culture	Honor Indigenous people, histories, and cultures

10/16/2024-10/23/2024 (High Days are first, last, and Sabbath)	Feast of Tabernacles	Non-Denominational Christian	Pictures the future 1,000- year rule of Jesus Christ on earth, non-work days for observers, some students do not go to school
10/17/2024-10/23/2024 (SD)	Sukkot	Jewish	Honor the time that Jewish people spent in the desert on their journey, celebrating God's protection, during this time some students will not go to school
10/31/2024	Halloween	U.S. Culture	Cultural observance with activities

## November 2024

### *Native American Heritage Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
11/1/2024-11/30/2024	Native American Heritage Month	U.S. Culture	Celebrate Indigenous heritage and honor the deep history of Indigenous peoples
11/1/2024 (SD)	Samhain	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the year's third and last harvest festival
11/1/2024	Diwali	Hindu	Celebrates light and new beginnings, five day festival takes place
11/1/2024	All Saints' Day	Christian	Celebrate all Saints, remember all those who have gone to heaven, church service
11/1/2024-11/2/2024	Dia de los Muertos	Mexican Culture	Celebrate the Day of the Dead, honor those who have passed
11/2/2024 (SD)	Birth of Bab	Baha'i	Celebrate and honor Bab, students may not go to school
11/2/2024	All Souls' Day	Christian	Day to honor the dead, church service
11/3/2024 (SD)	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Celebrate and honor Baha'u'llah, students may not go to school
11/11/2024	Veteran's Day	U.S. Culture	Honor military veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces
11/20/2024	Transgender Day of Remembrance	U.S. Culture	Transgender Day of Remembrance honors the memories of those who have lost their lives due to anti-transgender violence and hate
11/24/2024	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib	Sikh	Honor the passing of Guru Tegh Bahadur
11/28/2024	Thanksgiving	U.S. Culture	Honor family and friends, honor Indigenous histories

## December 2024

## *Human Rights Month*

<b>Date of Observance</b>	<b>Name of Observance</b>	<b>Religion/Culture</b>	<b>Impact</b>
12/1/2024-12/31/2024 (12/10/2024 actual observance)	Universal Human Rights Month	U.S. Culture	The UN General Assembly issued the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which established a set of principles regarding equality, fairness, and fundamental human rights that must be universally protected
12/1/2024	First Sunday of Advent	Christian	The beginning of the Christian year, celebrate the coming of Jesus for the four weeks to follow
12/3/2024	International Day of Persons with Disability		The day is about advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities and to bring awareness to disabilities
12/8/2024	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Christian	Celebrate the immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary
12/8/2024	Buddhist Enlightenment Day	Buddhist	Day for observers to be reborn and find out the truth about life
12/12/2024	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mexican Christian)	Christian	Celebrate when Juan Diego saw the Virgin Mary
12/16/2024- 12/24/2024	Simbang Gabi (Fillipino Christian)	Christian	Series of nine masses at dawn, celebrate the birth of Jesus
12/16/2024- 12/24/2024	Las Posadas	Mexican Culture	Celebrate Joseph & Mary's travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem
12/21/2024	Winter Solstice	Neo Pagan	Honor the new solar year
12/24/2024	Christmas Eve	Christian	Midnight Mass, celebrate the birth of Jesus
12/25/2024	Christmas Day	Christian	Celebrate the birth of Jesus
12/26/2024- 1/1/2025	Kwanzaa	African Culture	Celebrate African culture and history
12/26/2024-1/2/2025 (SD)	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	The Festival of Lights spanning across eight days

## **January 2025**

<b>Date of Observance</b>	<b>Name of Observance</b>	<b>Religion/Culture</b>	<b>Impact</b>
1/1/2025	New Year's Day	U.S. Culture	Celebrate the first day of the new year
1/5/2025	Birth of Guru Gobind Singh	Sikh	Celebrate the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh
1/6/2025	Dia de los Reyes (Hispanic Christian)	Christian	Honor the Three Wise Men, exchange gifts
1/6/2025	Epiphany	Christian	Honor the Three Wise Men, exchange gifts

1/7/2025	Orthodox Christmas Day	Christian	Celebrate the birth of Jesus
1/13/2025	Lohri	Hindu	Lohri is a New Year celebrated by Punjabi and people from many other North Indian regions. The festival is celebrated mid-wintertime with new harvest and bonfires
1/14/2025-1/17/2025	Makar Sankranti/ Pongal	Hindu	Makar Sankranti/Pongal is a harvest festival celebrated by South Indian States
1/14/2025	Orthodox New Year	Christian	Celebrate the New Year
1/20/2024	Martin Luther King Day	U.S. Culture	Honor Dr. King's voice and legacy
1/27/2025 (SD)	Isra and Mi'raj	Islamic	Celebrate the night Allah took Muhammad to Jerusalem from Mecca
1/27/2025	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Jewish	Commemoration of the Holocaust
1/29/2025	Lunar New Year	East and South Asian Culture	Celebrate the new year

## February 2025

### *Black History Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
2/1/2025-2/28/2025	Black History Month	U.S. Culture	Elevate, share, and listen to the experiences, histories, key contributions, and lives of Black peoples and communities in American history
2/1/2025 (SD)	Imbolc	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the Winter Cross-Quarter
2/13/2025 (SD)	Tu B'Shvat/Tu B'Shevat	Jewish	Celebrate connection to the earth and environment, trees often planted
2/14/2025	Valentine's Day	U.S. Culture	Celebrate relationships and friendships
2/15/2025	Nirvana Day	Buddhist	Honors the passing of Buddha
2/17/2025	Presidents' Day	U.S. Culture	Remember all U.S. presidents
2/19/2025	Day of Remembrance (Japanese Internment)	U.S. Culture	Commemorate the Internment of Japanese Americans during World War II
2/26/2025 (SD)	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	Honors the Lord Shiva, fasting takes place for the whole day and night

2/26/2025- 2/28/2025 (SD)	Ayyam-i-Ha	Baha'i	Celebrate God and devote themselves to charity and giving
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## March 2025

### *Women's History Month & Student Justice Conference*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
3/1/2025-3/31/2025	Women's History Month	U.S. Culture	Women's History Month is an annual observance to highlight the contributions of women throughout history
3/1/2025-3/19/2025	The Baha'i Fast	Baha'i	Observers fast during this time
3/1/2025-3/29/2025 (SD) 3/1/2025-3/29/2025 (SD)	Ramadan *dates are not fixed	Islamic	Honor the first Quran revelation to Muhammad, fast sunrise to sunset for the duration of the holiday for those who have reached puberty
3/5/2025	Ash Wednesday (Christian)	Christian	First day of Lent
3/5/2025-4/17/2025 3/5/2025-4/17/2025	Lent	Christian	Some observers fast through Lent
3/8/2025	International Women's Day	U.S. Culture	International Women's Day is an annual recognition and celebrates women's rights movement throughout history
3/14/2025 (SD)	Purim	Jewish	Day of exchanging food and gifts
3/14/2025	Holi	Hindu	Celebrates the arrival of spring, love, fertility, and good over evil, spans over 2 days
3/20/2025	Nowruz (Persian New Year)	Zoroastrian, Iranian Culture	Marks the beginning of spring
3/21/2025	Student Justice Conference	N/A	To build space for high school students to celebrate their intersectional identities, build community and collaborate with one another, grow their knowledge and understandings about various forms of justice, and learn more about various higher education opportunities
3/25/2025	International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade	International observance	Offers the opportunity to honor and remember the individuals who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal system of enslavement.
3/27/2025 (SD)	Laylat al Qadr *date not fixed	Islamic	Honor the holiest night of Ramadan on the 27th day



3/30/2025	Ostara	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the arrival of spring
3/30/2025	Ugadi/Yugadi/Gudi Padwa	Hindu	Celebrates the traditional New Year, Spring festival
3/31/2025 (SD)	Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramadan) *date not fixed	Islamic	Marks the end of Ramadan, feast of breaking the fast, students often do not go to school
3/31/2025	International Transgender Day Of Visibility	U.S. Culture	International Transgender Day of Visibility is dedicated to celebrating transgender people and raising awareness of discrimination faced by transgender people as well as a celebration of their contributions

## April 2025

### *Arab American Heritage Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
4/1/2025-4/30/2025	Arab American Heritage Month	U.S. Culture	Celebrate Arab Americans throughout the past and present, and recognize their contributions to America
4/6/2025	Rama Navami	Hindu	Celebrates Lord Rama's birthday
4/13/2025-4/16/2025	Boun Pi Mai	Laotian Culture	Laos New Year
4/13/2025-4/20/2025 (SD)	Passover	Jewish	Celebrates journey to freedom
4/13/2025-4/20/2025 (SD) (High Days are first and last)	Feast of Unleavened Bread	Non-Denominational Christian	Symbolizes striving to live a sin-free life, observers remove leavening (sin) from homes and eat unleavened breads to symbolize the righteousness of Christ, non-work day for observers, some students will not go to school
4/13/2025	Palm Sunday	Christian	Honor the last days of Jesus' life
4/14/2025	Vishu (Solar New Year)	Hindu	Vishu is a Solar New Year celebrated by people of Tamil Nadu and some North Indian regions
4/14/2025	Vaisakhi	Sikh	Celebrate the founding of the Sikh community, known as Khalsa
4/17/2025	Maundy Thursday	Christian	Remember when Jesus celebrated his last Passover with Disciples
4/18/2025	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian	Events that honor and lead up to the crucifixion of Jesus, many observe with fasting

4/18/2025	Good Friday	Christian	Honor Jesus' Passion, crucifixion, and passing
4/18/2025	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev	Sikh	Celebrate the birthday of Guru Angad Dev
4/19/2025	Holy Saturday	Christian	Honor the day that Jesus' body rest in the tomb after his passing
4/19/2025	Orthodox Holy Saturday	Christian	Honor the time between the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus
4/20/2025	Easter (Christian)	Christian	Celebrate Jesus' resurrection
4/20/2025	Orthodox Easter	Christian	Honor the resurrection of Jesus
4/21/2025 - 5//2025 (SD)	Ridvan	Baha'i	Celebrates Baha'u'llah's time in the Rivdan garden, and the declaration of his prophecy, students may not go to school for the first and last day
4/30/2025	Dia de los Niños	Mexican Culture	Celebrate children, family, and learning

## May 2025

### *Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month & Jewish American Heritage Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
5/1/2025-5/31/2025	Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month	U.S. Culture	A tribute to and celebration of the cultures, histories, contributions, and achievements of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders across the country
5/1/2025-5/31/2025	Jewish American Heritage Month	U.S. Culture	Celebrating and paying tribute to the generations of Jewish Americans who helped form the fabric of American history, culture and society
5/1/2025	Beltane	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the May Lord, May Lady and fertility, do maypole dancing
5/5/2025	Buddha's Birthday	Buddhist	Celebrate the birth of Buddha
5/16/2025 (SD)	Lag BaOmer	Jewish	Small holiday known for weddings, getting haircuts, having bonfires

5/23/2025 (SD)	Declaration of the Bab	Baha'i	Celebrate Bab's declaration as a Messenger of God, students may not go to school
5/26/2025	Memorial Day	U.S. Culture	Honor military personnel who have passed while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces
5/28/2025 (SD)	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	Honors the passing of Baha'u'llah, students may not go to school
5/29/2025	Ascension Day	Christian	Honors Jesus' ascension into Heaven

## June 2025

### *Pride Month & National Caribbean-American Heritage Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
6/1/2025-6/30/2025	Pride Month	U.S. Culture	Celebrates and commemorates the Stonewall riots, the global impact that the LGBTQIA2S+ community has had, and advocate for actionable steps to affirm and amplify the voices of the LGBTQIA2S+ community
6/1/2025-6/30/2025	National Caribbean-American Heritage Month	U.S. Culture	Celebrates and honors the contributions and the diverse cultures of the millions of people across our Nation with Caribbean heritage
6/2/2025-6/3/2025 (SD)	Shavuot	Jewish	Celebrates the Five Books of the Torah, many observers stay up all night to study the Torah and celebrate
6/5/2025-6/9/2025	Hajj	Islamic	Pilgrimage to Mecca
6/6/2025 (SD)	Day of Arafah	Islamic	Second day of the pilgrimage to Mecca
6/6/2025 (SD)	Eid al-Adha *date not fixed	Islamic	Marks the sacrifice feast, honors Ibrahim's sacrifice of his son on Allah's orders, festival takes place
6/8/2025 (SD)	Pentecost	Non-Denominational Christian	Feast of First Fruits, also known as Feast of Weeks, celebrate His Spirit
6/8/2025	Pentecost	Christian	Celebrate the Holy Spirit
6/9/2025	Whit Monday	Christian	Continuation of celebrating the Holy Spirit
6/15/2025	Trinity Sunday	Christian	Celebrate the Trinity
6/16/2025	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib	Sikh	Honor the passing of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib
6/19/2025	Corpus Christi	Christian	Celebrate Jesus' body and blood
6/19/2025	Juneteenth	African-American Culture	Celebrate the abolition of slavery in the state of Texas

6/20/2025	Summer Solstice	Neo Pagan	Celebrate the longest day of the year
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**July 2025**  
*Disability Pride Month*

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
7/1/2025-7/31/2025	Disability Pride Month	U.S. Culture	Honors the history, achievements, experiences, and struggles of the disability community
7/9/2025 (SD)	Martyrdom of the Bab	Baha'i	Honors the passing of the Bab, some students may not go to school

**August 2025**

Date of Observance	Name of Observance	Religion/Culture	Impact
8/9/2025	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Celebrates the unity and bond between brothers and sisters, sisters tie a thread around their brothers' wrists, brothers declare that they will protect their sister
8/15/2025	Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary	Christian	Celebrate Mary's assumption into Heaven by God

Sources:

Baha'i National Center representative  
 Caprice Hollins' Diversity Calendar  
 Congregation Kol Ami representative  
 Hindu Temple and Cultural Center representative  
 Islamic Center of Bothell representative  
 Lisa Hall's Cultural and Religious Observances Chart  
[NCCJ Interfaith Calendar](#)  
 OSPI Calendar  
 Sikh Center of Seattle representative  
 Seattle Buddhist Church representative  
 The University of Arizona Calendar of Religious Holidays  
 The University of Washington Calendar of Holidays and Religious Observances  
 University of Missouri Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Dept. Guide to Religions