

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity

Advancing Equitable Opportunities



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September 2024 Cultural Heritage Highlights



National Hispanic Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month is annually celebrated from September 15 to October 15 in the United States for recognizing the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States.

The 2024 theme for Hispanic Heritage Month is *Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together*, encapsulating the "spirit of innovation, resilience, and unity that define the Hispanic experience."

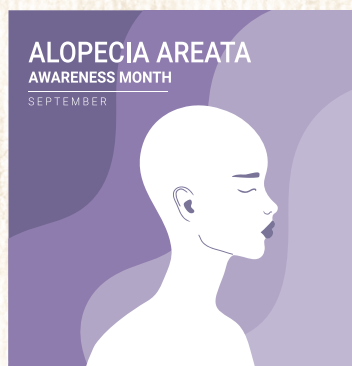
During Hispanic Heritage Month, many cities will host concerts, parades, runs, festivals, art exhibits, and more in celebration. You can also celebrate by watching award shows that honor the many accomplishments of Latinas and Latinos and their contributions to our nation's history.

Learn more:

[Hispanic Heritage Month toolkit](#)

[About Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

[Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with the Smithsonian](#)



Alopecia Awareness Month

Alopecia areata is a common autoimmune disease, causing sudden hair loss on the scalp, face, and sometimes other areas of the body. There are different levels of alopecia areata severity.

Who gets it? People of all ages, genders, and racial and ethnic groups are affected by the alopecia areata. The hair loss often first appears during childhood but how and when is different for everyone.

Learn more:

[About Alopecia Awareness Month](#)

[What is Alopecia areata?](#)



Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month (CCAM) is recognized every September by childhood cancer organizations around the world. Cancer is a leading cause of death for children and adolescents worldwide, with approximately 400,000 children diagnosed each year, according to the World Health Organization.

Learn more:

[About Childhood Cancer Awareness Month](#)



International Week of the Deaf

Theme for 2024: *Sign up for Sign Language Rights*

International Week of the Deaf during the last week of September draws attention to the accomplishments of people who are deaf and also promotes their rights. By promoting human rights and access to sign language, the World Federation of the Deaf ([WFD](#)) is improving the lives of millions of deaf people who face inequality every day. The organization collaborates with deaf leaders and policymakers to implement human rights mechanisms such as the CRPD and 2030 Agenda. The WFD also takes direct action by providing human rights training and representing deaf people's interests on a global scale.

Learn more:

[About the World Federation of the Deaf \(WFD\)](#)
[World Deaf Day](#)



September 2–Labor Day

Labor Day celebrates the women and men who campaigned tirelessly for workers' rights in the labor movement of the late 19th century. Their hard-fought wins are the reason for many of the rights we enjoy and take for granted today, such as a 40-hour work week, safe work conditions, paid time off, and sick leave. Those workers saw that there could be no freedom and liberty in this country without economic freedom for the working class. The holiday honors the source of this nation's strength—American workers, unions, and labor leaders.

Learn more:

[History of Labor Day from the U.S. Department of Labor](#)
[Origin and history of Labor Day–Wikipedia](#)



September 8–September 14–Suicide Prevention Week

Generally taking place the week after Labor Day, National Suicide Prevention Week begins with World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) recognizes the entire month of September as National Suicide Prevention Month: a moment in time in which we rally the public to create awareness of this leading cause of death, and inspire more and more people to learn how they can play a role in their communities in helping to save lives.

Learn more:

[National Suicide Prevention Month](#)



September 11–Enkutatash (Ethiopian and Eritrean New Year)

Enkutatash (Ge'ez: inik'ut'at'ashi) is a public holiday in coincidence of New Year in Ethiopia and Eritrea. It occurs on Meskerem 1 on the Ethiopian calendar, which is September 11(or, during a leap year, September 12) according to the Gregorian calendar. Ethiopians don vibrant new clothes and gather with loved ones to celebrate Enkutatash. The day begins with a colorful and joyful procession, where people young and old take to the streets, singing, dancing, and distributing flowers.

Learn more:

[Let's Celebrate Enkutatash!](#)



September 11–Patriot Day

Remembered on September 11, this day honors the victims and first responders of the 9/11 attacks.

Learn more:

[Patriot Day in the USA 2024](#)



September 15-September 16–Mawlid Al-Nabi (Islamic-Sunni and Shi'a)

Milad an-Nabi, also known as Mawlid, is celebrated by Muslims as the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad. Even though the Muslim religion doesn't usually celebrate birthdays, as there's no evidence of the Prophet doing so, the accepted birthdate of the Prophet himself started being celebrated early in Islam's history and is accepted as a national holiday in many Muslim countries today.

Learn more:

[The Prophet's Birthday \(S\): 5 Ways to Celebrate](#)



September 16–Mexican Independence Day

Mexico is the best place to be on September 16, Mexican Independence Day. This fiesta-friendly holiday celebrates Mexico's Declaration of Independence from Spain in 1810, and it's filled with national pride, colorful parades, mariachi concerts, and food, food, and more Sabrosa food.

Learn more:

[Mexican Independence Day – September 16, 2024](#)



September 17–Celebrate the Ratification of the U. S. Constitution

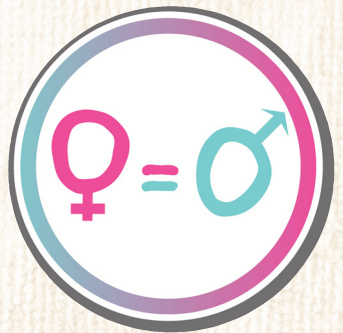
On September 17, 1787, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention met for the last time to sign the document they had created. We encourage all Americans to observe this important day in our nation's history by attending local events in your area. Celebrate Constitution Day through activities, learning, parades and demonstrations of our love for the United State of America and the Blessings of Freedom Our Founding Fathers secured for us.

Learn more:

[The Founding Fathers / Constitution Day events](#)

[The day the Constitution was ratified](#)

[Learn about Constitution Day from the Mississippi State University Libraries](#)



September 20–HeForShe Movement

This movement was started by the UN with the goal of promoting gender equality. HeForShe is an invitation for men and people of all genders to stand in solidarity with women to create a bold, visible and united force for gender equality. The men of HeForShe aren't on the sidelines. They're working with women and with each other to build businesses, raise families, and give back to their communities.

Learn more:

[HeForShe news](#)

[HeForShe resources](#)



September 21–International Day of Peace

2024 Global Peace Day Theme: Cultivating a Culture of Peace

Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.

Learn more:

[What is the International Day of Peace?](#)



September 22–American Business Women's Day

American Business Women's Day is celebrated on September 22 every year. It is a special day dedicated to celebrating the achievements and contributions of women in the business world. This date marks the founding of the American Business Women's Association in 1949, a key organization that supports women's professional growth and achievements.

Learn more:

[Proclamation 5532–American Business Women's Day, 1986](#)



September 22–Fall Equinox

As nature transitions, daylight and darkness find balance, marking a moment of cosmic equilibrium and changing landscapes with vibrant hues.

Learn more:

[Fall Equinox history, celebration, facts](#)



September 23–Bi Visibility Day

Celebrate Bisexuality Day unites the bisexual community, their friends, and their supporters. It also raises awareness and provides an opportunity to educate the public about bisexuality. The day aims to counteract prejudice of bisexuals by both the straight and greater LGBT+ communities.

Learn more:

[Origins and significance of Bi Visibility Day](#)



September 23–International Day of Sign Languages

September 23 commemorates the date that the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) was established in 1951. This day marks the birth of an advocacy organization, which has as one of its main goals, the preservation of sign languages and Deaf culture as pre-requisites to the realization of the human rights of deaf people.

Learn more:

[A Brief But Spectacular Take on Blending the Worlds of art, ASL and Accessibility](#)
[Learn ASL with ASL Kids](#)



September 27–Meskel (Ethiopian Orthodox and Eritrean Orthodox religious holiday)

This public holiday in Ethiopia and Eritrea is celebrated on September 27 unless it is a leap year, in which case it is celebrated on September 28. Meskel commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by Queen Helena in the fourth century. This is the first big festival of the Ethiopian religious year.

Learn more:

[Meskel around the world in 2024](#)



September 27–Native American Day

Native American Day is typically observed on the fourth Friday of September each year. This day honors and recognizes the rich cultural heritage, contributions, and history of Native American peoples throughout the United States. It provides an opportunity for communities to come together, learn, and celebrate the diverse traditions and achievements of Native American tribes and nations. Through various events, educational programs, and cultural activities, Native American Day promotes awareness and understanding while fostering a deeper appreciation for the indigenous cultures that have shaped the nation's past and continue to enrich its present.

Learn more:

[Learn about Native American Day, history, celebrations and more](#)



September 28–National Public Lands Day

National Public Lands Day is on September 28, 2024! Since 1994, this annual event is recognized on the fourth Saturday of September and has been the nation's largest single-day volunteer effort. Last year, over 130 national parks hosted events with 7,600 volunteers donating an impressive 41,500 hours of service.

All national parks that charge an entrance fee will offer [free admission to everyone on September 28, 2024](#) in celebration of National Public Lands Day.

