

# 2022- 23 Cultural Observations

## September:

All Month:

- **September 15 - October 15<sup>TH</sup> is Hispanic Heritage Month.** This month corresponds with Mexican Independence Day, which is celebrated on September 16 and recognizes the revolution in 1810 that ended Spanish dictatorship.
- **National Guide Dog Month**
- **World Alzheimer's Month**

By Date:

### **September 5 - Labor Day**

Labor Day honors the contribution that laborers have made to the country and is observed on the first Monday of September.

### **September 6 - Color Blindness Awareness Day**

The date for Color Blind Awareness Day was chosen because it's the birthday of John Dalton. John Dalton was a scientist who was born on 6th September 1766. He was the first person known to realize color blindness exists.

### **September 15 - International Day of Democracy**

Provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world. Democracy is as much a process as a goal, and only with the full participation of and support by the international community, national governing bodies, civil society and individuals, can the ideal of democracy be made into a reality to be enjoyed by everyone, everywhere.

### **September 16 - Mexican Independence Day**

Recognizes the revolution in 1810 that ended Spanish dictatorship.

### **September 21 - World Alzheimer's Day**

On this day, the world concentrates its efforts on creating awareness of Alzheimer's disease. The disease is among the most prevalent forms of dementia; a set of disorders that disrupt mental function. World Alzheimer's Day is the perfect opportunity for us to raise our voices and find new ways of fighting the disease's effects.

### **September 21-29 - Mabon**

Also referred to as Harvest Home, the Feast of the Ingathering, and Meán Fómhair. Mabon is the second celebration of the harvest, a ritual of thanksgiving for the fruits of the earth, and a recognition of the need to share them to secure the blessings of the Goddess and the God during the coming winter months. It is one of the eight major annual sabbats or festivals.

### **September 23 - International Day of Sign Languages**

The International Day of Sign Languages is a unique opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users.

### **September 25 - Rosh Hashanah (Eve of the Jewish New Year)**

Start of the Jewish New Year, Day of Judgment and Remembrance. The Jewish calendar celebrates the New Year in the seventh month (Tishrei) as a day of rest and celebration ten days before Yom Kippur.

Rosh Hashanah is observed from Sunday evening, Sept. 25, 2022, through the end of Monday, Sept. 26, 2022 (sundown to nightfall: Jewish New Year). Religious services are held during the day. Those observing the second day of Rosh Hashanah would maintain their abstention from labor until nightfall on Sept. 27. Those traveling to a synagogue or home for this festival may need to arrive before sundown on Sept. 25 and depart after the festival has ended.

### **September 27 - Meskel**

A day that commemorates the cross used in the Crucifixion of Jesus in some Christian denominations, and a religious holiday in the Ethiopian Orthodox and Eritrean Orthodox churches that commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by the Roman Empress, Helena, in the fourth century.

### **September 28 - Teacher's Day in Taiwan**

Taiwan uses this day to honor teachers' contributions to their students and society in general. People often express their gratitude to their teachers by visiting them or sending them a card. This date was chosen to commemorate the birth of Confucius, the model master educator in ancient China.

# October

All Month:

**National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

**Down Syndrome Awareness Month**

**Spina Bifida Awareness Month**

**Bullying Prevention Month**

**Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

**Family History Month**

**National Work and Family Month**

**Filipino-American Heritage Month**

**Italian-American Heritage Month**

**National German Heritage Month**

**LGBTQ+ History Month**

By Date:

## **October 4 - Yom Kippur**

Yom Kippur is often considered the holiest day of the year for Jews, and the day is dedicated to atonement and abstinence. During Yom Kippur, Jews fast from before sundown on the first day until after sunset on the second day, and light a Yahrzeit memorial candle at sundown on the night of Yom Kippur. Yom Kippur is observed from Tuesday evening, Oct. 4, 2022, through the end of Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022.

## **October 5 - Dussehra**

A 10-day festival celebrated by Hindus to recognize Rama's victory over evil.

## **October 8 - Eid Milad Un Nabi**

An Islamic holiday commemorating the birthday of the prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

## **October 10 - Native American Day**

A federal holiday observed annually on the fourth Friday in September in the state of California and on the second Monday in October in South Dakota, United States.

**October 10 - National Indigenous Peoples Day**

An alternative celebration to Columbus Day, gives recognition to the indigenous populations affected by colonization.

**October 10 -Canadian Thanksgiving**

A chance for people to give thanks for a good harvest and other fortunes in the past year.

**October 11 - National Coming Out Day (U.S.)**

For those who identify as LGBTQ+, this day celebrates coming out and the recognition of the 1987 March on Washington for gay and lesbian equality.

**October 24 - Diwali (Festival of Lights)**

Those traveling to a temple for Puja — traditional ritual worship — may be away from campus all day Oct. 24.

**October 25 - Birth of Báb**

A Bahá'í holiday celebrating the birth of the prophet Báb.

**October 27 - The Birth of Baha'u'llah**

A day which members of the Baha'i faith celebrate the birthday of the founder of the Baha'i religion.

**October 31 - Samhain (New Year)**

A ritual will be held — often, but not always — in the evening. Those traveling to a Pagan community gathering would be away from campus on Oct. 31.

**October 31 - All Hallows' Eve (Halloween)**

A celebration observed in a number of countries on the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows' Day. It begins the three-day observance of Allhallowtide, the time in the liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead, including saints (hallows), martyrs, and all the faithfully departed.

# November

All Month:

**National Native American Heritage Month**

**Alzheimer's Awareness Month**

**COPD Awareness Month**

**Dercum's Disease Awareness Month**

**Diabetes Awareness Month**

**Epilepsy Awareness Month**

**Lung Cancer Awareness Month**

**Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month**

**Prostate Cancer Awareness Month**

**Men's Health Awareness Month**

By Date:

**November 1 - All Saints Day**

Commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints.

**November 2 - All Souls Day, Dia de los Muertos**

All Souls Day, which commemorates all faithful Christians who are now dead. In the Mexican tradition, the holiday is celebrated as Dia de Los Muertos (October 31 and November 2), which is a time of remembrance for dead ancestors and a celebration of the continuity of life.

**November 2 - International Stress Awareness Day**

24 hours of reinforcing the fact that you're not doing yourself a favor by stressing about situations you can't control. In fact, according to science, chronic stress leads to impaired cognitive and physiological functions.

**November 10 - World Usability Day**

Raise standards so that technology works to harness human potential.

**November 11 - Veterans Day**

An annual U.S. federal holiday honoring military veterans.

### **November 121 - Birth of Baha'u'llah**

Baha' celebrates the Birth of Baha'u'llah as one of the nine yearly holidays on which they take the day off and focus on their faith and worship. Believers often celebrate in their homes or at public worship centers. Those traveling to a temple or celebration may be off campus for the day.

### **November 13 - World Kindness Day**

An international observance introduced in 1998 by the World Kindness Movement, a coalition of nations' kindness NGOs. It is observed in many countries, including Canada, Australia, Nigeria and the United Arab Emirates. Singapore observed the day for the first time in 2009. Italy and India also observed the day. In the UK, it is fronted by David Jamilly, who co-founded Kindness Day UK with Louise Burfitt-Dons.

### **November 16 - International Day for Tolerance**

An annual observance day declared by UNESCO in 1995 to generate public awareness of the dangers of intolerance. It is observed on 16 November.

### **November 20 - Transgender Day of Remembrance**

This day was established in 1998 to memorialize those who have been killed as a result of transphobia, and raise awareness of the continued violence endured by the transgender community.

### **November 20 - Feast of Christ the King**

A praise to God for the gift of time. Many party and feast to give thanks.

### **November 24 - Thanksgiving**

A national holiday celebrated on various dates in the United States, Canada, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Liberia. It began as a day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year. Similarly named festival holidays occur in Germany and Japan. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday of October in Canada and on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States and around the same part of the year in other places.

### **November 25 - Native American Heritage Day**

Held annually the Friday after Thanksgiving, encourages Americans of all backgrounds to observe and honor Native Americans through appropriate ceremonies and activities.

# December

All Month:

## **Universal Human Rights Month**

By Date:

### **December 1 - World AIDS Day**

This day commemorates those who have died of AIDS, and to acknowledge the need for a continued commitment to all those affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

### **December 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

This day is designed to raise awareness in regards to persons with disabilities in order to improve their lives and provide them with equal opportunity.

### **December 8 - Immaculate Conception of Mary**

This day celebrates of the solemn celebration, by various Christian denominations, of belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

### **December 8 - Bodhi Day**

A Buddhist holiday that commemorates the day that the historical Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni), experienced enlightenment, also known as bodhi in Sanskrit and Pali. A full day of remembrance and meditation. Those traveling to a temple for meditation would be away from campus the entire day of December 8.

### **December 10 - International Human Rights Day**

Established by the United Nations in 1948 to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

### **December 12 - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

A religious holiday in Mexico commemorating the appearance of the Virgin Mary near Mexico City in 1531.

### **December 13 - St. Lucia's Day**

A religious festival of light in Scandinavia and Italy commemorating the martyrdom of St. Lucia, a young Christian girl who was killed for her faith in 304 C.E.

**December 16-24 - Las Posadas**

A nine-day celebration in Mexico commemorating the trials Mary and Joseph endured during their journey to Bethlehem.

**December 16-24 Chanukah ~ (Festival of Lights/Rededication)**

An eight-day celebration commemorating the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after its defilement in 164 BCE. It is customary during Chanukah to eat foods fried in olive oil.

**December 18-26 Hanukkah Begins**

Hanukkah lasts eight days from the 25th day of Kislev and commemorates the rededication of the Temple in 165 BC by the Maccabees after its desecration by the Syrians. It is marked by the successive kindling of eight lights.

**December 20 - International Human Solidarity Day**

An international annual unity day of the United Nations and its member states. Its main goal is to recognize the universal value of solidarity by making member states aware of global objectives and initiatives to reduce poverty and to formulate and share poverty reduction strategies of independent nations around the world.

**December 21 - Yule Winter Solstice**

Celebrated by Pagans and Wiccans. The shortest day of the year represents a celebration focusing on rebirth, renewal and new beginnings as the sun makes its way back to the Earth.

**December 25 - Christmas Day.**

An annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. The day that many Christians associate with Jesus' birth.

**December 26-January 1 - Kwanzaa**

African-American holiday started by Maulana Karenga in 1966 to celebrate universal African-American heritage.

**December 31 - New Year's Eve**

New Year's Eve, also known as Old Year's Day or Saint Sylvester's Day in many countries, the evening or the entire day of the last day of the year on 31 December.