

DIVERSITY AWARENESS CALENDAR



*Trinity Christian College, Office Of Ethnic Diversity, May, 2005
Updated February 2008*

January



15 Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday (Observed)

Known for his leadership of the nonviolent Civil Rights Movement, Dr. King was instrumental in the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott in 1955 which ultimately resulted in bus desegregation in 1956. He was a founder and president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and emphasized the right of Blacks to vote. Dr. King is perhaps most identified with his "I Have a Dream" speech, delivered from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963. He was recognized as Time magazine's "Man of the Year" in March 1964 and he received the Nobel Peace Prize in December of that same year. A national holiday was established in 1983 and first observed in 1986, eighteen years after his assassination on April 4, 1968. His January 15, 1929 birth is honored on the third Monday in January.

February

African American History Month

Carter G. Woodson decided to take on the challenge of writing black Americans into the nation's history when he established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (now called the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History) in 1915, and a year later founded the widely respected Journal of Negro History. In 1926, he launched Negro History Week as an initiative to bring national attention to the contributions of black people throughout American history.



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On this day in 1965, Malcolm X, the leader who promoted Black Nationalism, was shot to death by three Black Muslims.

March






National Women's History Month

The observance was initiated by the National Women's History Project (NWHP) to promote gender equity through education about the lives and accomplishments of women. First established by Congress as National Women's History Week in 1981, the observance was increased to the full month of March in 1987.

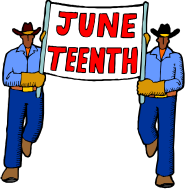
April

	<p>Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month (Local [Trinity] Observance)</p> <p>The local observance was initiated in 2007 to further promote diversity in our school. We gather as a family in Christ to celebrate the accomplishments of the Asian/Pacific American community. This also gives a chance for the students from that particular community to celebrate and share their heritage.</p>
	<p>14 Pan American Day</p> <p>First observed in 1931, Pan American Day is celebrated in 21 North, Central, and South American countries. The oldest international organization in the world, the Organization of American States (OAS), has its origin in these nations' coming together as one community in cooperation and peace.</p>


May

	<p>Older Americans Month</p> <p>Established by Presidential Proclamation, Older Americans Month is observed throughout May. Known from 1963 through 1973 as "Senior Citizens Month." It was renamed Older Americans Month in May 1974.</p>	
<p>Asian Pacific American Heritage Month</p> <p>Established on October 28, 1992, this observance honors and acknowledges the achievements and contributions made by Asian Pacific Americans. May was chosen because several events in the Asian Pacific community's history occurred throughout May. For example, the first Japanese immigrants arrived in May 1843 and the Transcontinental Railroad was completed in May 1869.</p>		
	<p>5 Cinco de Mayo</p> <p>The Battle of Puebla, in which General Ignacio Zaragoza's Mexican troops, outnumbered three to one, defeated Napoleon III's French forces, took place on May 5, 1862. This holiday is observed by Mexicans everywhere with parades, festivals, dances and speeches. Known as "Dia de la Batalla de Puebla" in Mexico, the Battle of Puebla is sometimes confused with Mexican Independence Day, which occurs in September.</p>	


June

 <p>19</p>	Juneteenth (Emancipation Day in Texas) <p>Although the Emancipation Proclamation was effective January 1 of 1863, it was not observed in Texas until federal troops arrived in Galveston on June 19, 1865 to enforce the law. Numerous reasons have been offered for the delay in freeing Texas slaves. Some say that the messenger sent to deliver the word was killed enroute. Others speculate that the delay was deliberate, so that the slaves would bring in one final crop for their owners. Juneteenth is primarily based on Texas events but it is now celebrated in many parts of the country.</p>
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July

 <p>26</p>	Americans with Disabilities Act Signing <p>Signed July 26th, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act has resulted in numerous changes for thousands of individuals. The act calls for reasonable accommodations in the workplace and for accessibility in public transportation and buildings.</p>
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August

 <p>26</p>	Women's Equality Day <p>The 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote, was certified as part of the U.S. Constitution on August 26, 1920. Also referred to as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, it states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." August 26, was designated as "Women's Equality Day" in 1971 by the U.S. Congress to honor women's continuing efforts toward equality.</p>
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September

National Hispanic Heritage Month <p>This observance runs for the period September 15 - October 15 each year. The Presidential Proclamation calls upon the people of our country, particularly the educational community, to observe the month with appropriate activities and ceremonies. Initiated in 1968 as National Hispanic Heritage Week, it was expanded by PL 100-402 in 1988.</p>	
 <p>16</p>	Mexican Independence Day <p>Mexican Independence Day culminates the Fiesta Patrias, which celebrates Mexico's independence from Spain. At 11:00 p.m. on September 15, the President of Mexico steps onto the balcony of the National Palace in Mexico City and re-creates the "El Grito" (Cry for Freedom). Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla issued this same cry the night of September 15, 1810, signaling the start of Mexico's rebellion from Spain. Independence Day, September 16, is celebrated with fireworks and parades. Mexican Independence Day is sometimes confused with the May 5 celebration, Cinco de Mayo.</p>

October

Diversity Awareness Month

Throughout October, we are encouraged to celebrate, promote, and appreciate the diversity that exists in our society. It is a time to broaden our understanding of the value that is added by people of all races, nationalities, religions, genders, age groups, ability statuses, and classes.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Sponsored by the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, this October observance encourages the full integration of people with disabilities into the workforce. Presidential Proclamation PL 100-630, dated November 7, 1988, replaced its week-long predecessor, National Employ the Handicapped Week.



November



Native American Heritage Month

In 1990 President George Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations have been issued each year since 1994.