

January 18: Martin Luther King Day, commemorating the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr., the recipient of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize and an activist for non-violent social change until his assassination in 1968.

January 24-27: Mahayana New Year, which is celebrated on the first full-moon day in January by members of the Mahayana Buddhist branch

January 27: The anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp in 1945 and UN Holocaust Memorial Day, the Annual International Day of Commemoration to remember the victims of the Holocaust.

February 1: National Freedom Day, which celebrates the signing of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865.

February 9: Mardi Gras, also known as Fat Tuesday or Shrove Tuesday, the last day of feasting before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.

February 10: Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent in the Christian faith. As a display of atonement, ashes are marked on worshippers. Lent, which is observed during the seven weeks prior to Easter, is a time of reflection and preparation for the Holy Week and is observed by fasting, charitable giving, and worshipping.

February 8: The Lunar New Year, the day that the Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese people celebrate the New Year.

February 8-22: The Chinese New Year. This year is the Year of the Monkey. Chinese New Year is the most important holiday in the Chinese lunisolar calendar and is recognized by gift giving, parades, decorations, and feasting. The celebration culminates with the Lantern Festival on February 22.

February 15: President's Day, originally established to honor Presidents Washington and Lincoln. It now serves as a reminder of the contributions of all U.S. presidents.

March 8: Maha Shivaratri, a Hindu holiday that honors Shiva, one of the Hindu deities.

March 8: International Women's Day. First observed in 1911 in Germany, it has now become a major global celebration honoring women's economic, political, and social achievements.

March 13 – April 15: Deaf History Month. This observance celebrates key events in deaf history, including the founding of Gallaudet University and the American School for the Deaf.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day, a holiday started in Ireland to recognize St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, who brought Christianity to the country in the early days of the faith.

March 20: The Bahá'í New Year or Naw-Rúz is a holiday celebrated on the vernal equinox. It is one of the nine Bahá'í holy days on which work is suspended.

March 20: Palm Sunday, a holiday recognized by Christians to commemorate the entry of Jesus in Jerusalem. It is the last Sunday of Lent and the beginning of the Holy Week.

March 25: Good Friday, which is celebrated by Christians to commemorate the execution of Jesus by crucifixion, and is recognized on the Friday before Easter.

March 27: Easter, a holiday celebrated by Christians to recognize Jesus's return from death after the crucifixion

April 2: World Autism Awareness Day, created to raise awareness of the developmental disorder around the globe

April 15: the Day of Silence on which students take a daylong vow of silence to protest the actual silencing of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students and their straight allies due to bias and harassment.

April 21-May 2: The days during which members of the Bahai Faith celebrate the Festival of Ridvan, which commemorates the 12 days when Baha'u'llah, the prophet-founder, resided in a garden called Ridvan (Paradise) and publicly proclaimed His mission as God's messenger for this age.

April 23-30: Passover, a Jewish holiday celebrated each spring in remembrance of the Jews' deliverance out of slavery in Egypt in 1300 B.C. On the first two days of Passover, a traditional Seder is eaten and the story of deliverance is shared.

April 24: Armenian Martyrs' Day recognizes the genocide of some 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923 in Turkey.

May 5: Cinco de Mayo which commemorates the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War (1861-1867). This day celebrates Mexican culture and heritage, including parades

May 5: The Jewish "Holocaust Remembrance Day" (Yom Hashoa) memorializing the heroic martyrdom of six million Jews who perished in the Nazi Holocaust.

May 17: International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, a global celebration of sexual and gender diversities.

May 30: Memorial Day in the United States. It is a federal holiday established to honor military veterans who died in wars fought by American forces.

June 6: The beginning of Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting. Muslims abstain from eating, drinking, and sexual activity from dawn until sunset, in efforts to teach patience, modesty, and spirituality. This year, the observance lasts until July 5.

June 14: Flag Day in the United States. This day is observed to celebrate the history and symbolism of the American flag.

June 26: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Pride Day in the United States. It celebrates the Stonewall Riots on June 28, 1969.

July 26: Disability Independence Day, which marks the anniversary of the 1990 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

August 26: Women's Equality Day, which commemorates the August 26, 1920 certification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution that gave women the right to vote. Congresswoman Bella Abzug first introduced a proclamation for Women's Equality Day in 1971. Since that time, every president has published a proclamation recognizing August 26 as Women's Equality Day.

September 5: Labor Day in the United States. Labor Day honors the contribution that laborers have made to the country and is observed on the first Monday of September..

September 15 – October 15: 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.

October 3-4: Rosh Hashanah, a holiday recognizing the Jewish New Year. It is the first of the Jewish High Holy Days, and is marked by abstinence, prayer, repentance, and rest.

October 11: National Coming Out Day. For those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender, this day celebrates coming out and the recognition of the 1987 march on Washington for gay and lesbian equality.

October 12: Yom Kippur. This holiday is the holiest day on the Jewish calendar and is a day of atonement marked by fasting and ceremonial repentance.

October 30: Diwali, "Festival of Lights", which celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance. Recognized by the Sikhs, Hindus, and Jains, the holiday is observed with decorating homes with lights and candles, setting off fireworks, and distributing sweets and gifts.

November 11: Veterans Day, an annual U.S. federal holiday honoring military veterans. The date is also celebrated as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day in other parts of the world and commemorates the ending of the first World War in 1918.

December 1: World AIDS Day, which was created to commemorate 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 25: Christmas, the day that Christians associate with Jesus's birth.

December 25 – January 1: Hanukkah (Chanukah). Also known as the Festival of Lights, it is an eight-day Jewish holiday recognizing the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. It is observed by lighting candles on a Menorah—one for each day of the festival.

December 26 – January 1: Kwanzaa, an African-American holiday started by Maulana Karenga in 1966 to celebrate universal African-American heritage. It is observed by lighting

