

Cultural celebrations help explain the stories and histories of ethnic cultures. They provide the opportunity to recognize the richness of each cultural identity. It is important to understand and appreciate these stories within the greater American narrative.

Heritage month celebrations are an important component in providing space for all of us to learn about our nation's diverse cultural history.

As the demographics of our district shifts, it is important that we understand "American" identity as one that is comprised of various cultures and heritages that collectively make up American history.

While there are designated heritage month celebrations, our goal as a system is to acknowledge the contributions made by all groups of people in the United States throughout the year, not just during the heritage month celebrations.

Commemorative Months

Commentary and recommended resources for selected national observances

Please note that the links lead to commentary on the commemorative month, which, in most cases contain links to other sites that house resources. These are not the entirety of all that there is on the topic. We encourage you to explore other sources also.

[Constitution Day and Citizenship Day \(September 17\)](#)

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day are observed each year on September 17 to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787, and "recognize all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become citizens."

[National Hispanic Heritage Month \(September 15 - October 15\)](#)

National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the contributions Hispanic Americans have made to American society and culture and to honor five of our Central American neighbors who celebrate their Independence days in September.

[American Indian Heritage Month \(November\)](#)

National American Indian Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the accomplishments of the peoples who were the original inhabitants, explorers, and settlers of the United States.

[Human Rights Day \(December 10\)](#)

Human Rights Day is observed each year to commemorate the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948.

[African American History Month \(February\)](#)

National African American History Month in February celebrates the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality and deepens our understanding of our Nation's history.

[Irish-American Heritage Month \(March\)](#)

Irish-American Heritage Month is a month to celebrate the contributions which Irish-Americans have made to the United States.



Commemorative Months *(continued)*

Commentary and recommended resources for selected national observances

Women's History Month (March)

Women's History Month honors and celebrates the struggles and achievements of American women throughout the history of the United States.

Jewish American Heritage Month (May)

Jewish American Heritage Month is a month to celebrate the contributions Jewish Americans have made to America since they first arrived in New Amsterdam in 1654.

Asian Pacific Heritage Month (May)

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month is a month to celebrate the contributions Asian/Pacific Americans have made to American history, society and culture.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month (June)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month commemorates the events of June 1969 and works to achieve equal justice and equal opportunity for LGBT Americans.