Office of Staff Health & Wellness and Diversity, Equity & Belonging Race Equity Committee

AUGUST 2022 - DIVERSITY CALENDAR

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

August is International Youth Day

- International Youth Day began in 2000 and was organized by the UN to recognize the input that young people make in education, community development, environmental groups, volunteering for different social projects.
- It's an initiative that honors the traits of young people and that acknowledges the challenges that today's fledging youth face. To support the elimination of these issues it is important that the youth are able to reach the right resources for education, wellbeing, medicine and more. Scholaroo is a platform that has centralized scholarships from around the world to help the youth of the world
- The aim of this initiative is to call attention to the ways in which the participation of young people at the national and international levels are complimenting national and multilateral institutions and processes. Another important aim is to draw lessons on how their involvement in institutional politics can be increased.

August 1: Lammas Day also known as Loaf Mass Day, is a Christian holiday celebrated in some English-speaking countries in the Northern Hemisphere on 1 August. The name originates from the word "loaf" in reference to bread and "Mass" in reference to the primary Christian liturgy celebrating Holy Communion.[4] It is a festival in the liturgical calendar to mark the blessing of the First Fruits of harvest, with a loaf of bread being brought to the church for this purpose.[3]

August 4: Barack Obama Birthday: Barack Hussein Obama II is an American politician who served as the 44th president of the United States from 2009 to 2017. He was the first African-American president of the United States. A member of the Democratic Party, he previously served as a U.S. senator from Illinois from 2005 to 2008. He was the third African American to be elected to that body since the end of Reconstruction (1877)

August 5-6: Tisha B'Av Day: The day is a day of remembrance of the destruction of the First and Second Temple in Jerusalem.

August7-8: Ashura: The day commemorates for Shia Muslims the death of Husayn ibn Ali who was the grandson of Muhammad in the Battle of Karbala of October 10, 680 CE. For Sunni Muslims the day relates to when Moses and his followers fled Egypt and were saved by God separating the Red Sea.

August 7: Purple Heart Day: A time for Americans to remember and honor the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. Purple Heart Day is also known as National Purple Heart Day, Purple Heart Recognition Day and Purple Heart Appreciation Day.

August 7: Sisters' Day: celebrates the spirit of sisterhood: sisters nationwide show appreciation and give recognition to one another for the special relationship they share. Send a card, make a phone call or share memories, photos, flowers and candy. Sisters may include biological sisters, sorority sisters, sisterly friends, etc.

August 4: National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day: The first Chocolate Chip Cookie was actually made by accident in Whitman, Massachusetts in an inn called the Toll House. In 1938, Ruth Graves Wakefield one day planned on making regular chocolate cookies but got the great idea of throwing in chunks of a chocolate bar into it. Much to her surprise, the chocolate did not mix well with the cookie and instead, it filled up with tasty chunks of chocolate. This fortunate turn of events led to the emergence of the Chocolate Chip Cookie and the birth of the Toll House company. As time went on, different versions of the cookie were made using white chocolate or dark chocolate and the people wanted a variety of new recipes to enjoy.

August 9: International Day of the World Indigenous Peoples: It marks the date of the inaugural session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations in 1982.The latest data reveals that there are about 370 to 500 million indigenous people living in 90 countries. These communities are noted to have their own unique set of languages, traditions, cultures, and governing systems. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) is organizing a virtual commemoration of the International Day.

August 9: National Book Lovers Day: A day for all those who love to read, National Book Lovers Day encourages you to find your favorite reading place, a good book (whether it be fiction or non-fiction) and read the day away. Books are the purest form of escapism. They can take you to any time, place, or culture. In honor of National Book Lovers Day August 9, we put away our smartphones, pull out a good book and simply read. From clay tablets to today's eBooks, literature has played a crucial role in preserving cultures, educating the masses, and storytelling.

August 11: Raksha Bandhan is a festival that celebrates the bond between brothers and sisters, is observed on Shravan Purnima Tithi, a day that falls during Gregorian August.

August 12: Hungry Ghost Festival is one of several traditional festivals in China to worship ancestors. They perform special ceremonies to avoid the wrath of the ghosts such as putting the family's ancestral tablets on a table, burning incense, and preparing food three times that day. The main ceremony is usually held at dusk. People put the family's ancestral tablets and old paintings and photographs on a table and then burn incense near them. Plates of food are put out for the ghosts on the table, and the people may kowtow in front of the memorial tablets and report their behavior to their ancestors to receive a blessing or punishment. People also feast on this night, and they might leave a place open at the table for a lost ancestor.

August 13: Left Handers Day will be observed on the 13th of August to celebrate the differences and distinctiveness of left-handed individuals. This day was first celebrated by Dean R. Campbell, founder of the Lefthanders International, Inc in 1976. Did you know Presidents Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama were all left-handed? Rock out with Paul McCartney or Jimi Hendrix, the world's greatest left-handed guitarist. (Stevie Ray Vaughan, born right-handed, learned to play a left-handed guitar like his hero, Hendrix). There's also Oprah Winfrey, Julia Roberts and Lady Gaga, left-handers all.

August 15: Feast of the Assumption: of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay—a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts as well as being a Holy Day of Obligation.

August 15: Back to School Prep Day: Captures the exciting new beginning that is the start of a new school year. While you have no doubt been enjoying the fruits of the summer, this day is your opportunity to begin planning for the school year ahead.

August 17: Marcus Garvey Day: It honors a Jamaican-born political activist, orator, publisher, journalist, and entrepreneur who fought for the rights of Afro-Jamaicans. In the United States, he was a noted civil rights activist who founded the *Negro World* newspaper, a shipping company called Black Star Line and the Universal Negro Improvement Association, or UNIA, a fraternal organization of black nationalists. As a group, they advocated for "separate but equal" status for persons of African ancestry, and as such they sought to establish independent Black states around the world, notably in Liberia on the west coast of Africa.

August 18: Birth of Lord Krishna: is a Hindu religious festival, celebrating the birthday of Lord Krishna. The date falls in the month of Bhadon on the 8th day of the dark fortnight in the Hindu calendar which is July, August, or September.

August 19: World Humanitarian Day: honors humanitarian aid workers all over the world. Established by the UN in 2009, this day commemorates the anniversary of the bombing of the United Nations headquarters in Iraq. 22 people lost their lives, including the UN's High Commissioner for Human Rights.

August 19: **World Photography Day:** This is a worldwide celebration of the art, craft, science and history of photography. You can participate in World Photography Day and help support photography everywhere, whether or not you have a photo to share! Search for posts using the tag #WorldPhotographyDay on August 19th, on the social medium of your choice, and "Like", comment and share the photos that resonate with you the most. If you discover a photographer whose work you appreciate, be sure to give them a follow-on social media, as well!

August 21: Senior Citizens Day: is an opportunity to say "thanks" to older Americans for what they have done to make our families and country better. It's also a time to reflect on our current communities. According to Forbes Magazine, by 2035, there will be 78 million people over 65 living in the United States. People are living longer than they used to. And they're continuing to work and be involved in the community even as they age. Many older Americans are living productive and happy lives.

August 23: International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition: is to remind people of the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade. It gives people a chance to think about the historic causes, the methods, and the consequences of slave trade. Each year the UN invites people all over the world, including educators, students, and artists, to organize events that center on the theme of this day. Theatre companies, cultural organizations, musicians, and artists take part on this day by expressing their resistance against slavery through performances that involve music, dance, and drama.

August 24: Marlee Matlin's Birthday: is the only hearing-impaired actor to win the Oscar for Best Actor or Best Actress. This is a big win for people with disabilities and shows just how significant representation is. Here are some ways you can be inclusive of deaf culture:

August 26: Women's Equality Day: At the behest of Rep. Bella Abzug (D-NY), in 1971 and passed in 1973, the U.S. Congress designated August 26th as **"Women's Equality Day."** The date was selected to commemorate the 1920 certification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote. This was the culmination of a massive, peaceful civil rights movement by women that had its formal beginnings in 1848 at the world's first women's rights convention, in Seneca Falls, New York. The observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality. Workplaces, libraries, organizations, and public facilities now participate with Women's Equality Day programs, displays, video showings, or other activities.

August 31: Ganesh Chaturthi: celebrated as birth anniversary of Lord Ganesh. On Ganesh Chaturthi, Lord Ganesh is worshipped as the god of wisdom, prosperity, and good fortune. It is believed that Lord Ganesh was born during Shukla Paksha of Bhadrapada month. Currently Ganesh Chaturthi day falls in month of August or September in English calendar.

REFERENCES

https://nationaltoday.com/international-youth-day/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lammas

Barack Obama | Biography, Parents, Education, Presidency, Books, & Facts | Britannica

https://nationaltoday.com/national-chocolate-chip-cookie-day/

https://nationaltoday.com/national-book-lovers-day/

Tisha B'Av 2022 - Calendar Date

Ashura 2022 – When is 9th and 10th Muharram 2022 | IslamicFinder

Purple Heart Day 2021 (veteran.com)

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples 2022 | United Nations For Indigenous Peoples

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE - August 9, 2022 - National Today

Raksha Bandhan 2022 date and other significant details (timesnownews.com)

Hungry Ghost Festival, Chinese Zhongyuan Festival (chinahighlights.com)

INTERNATIONAL LEFTHANDERS DAY - August 13, 2022 - National Today

The Feast of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (learnreligions.com)

https://nationaltoday.com/national-back-school-prep-day/

Marcus Garvey Day in Jamaica / August 17, 2022 (anydayguide.com)

MaKrishna Janmashtami 2022 - Calendar Datercus Garvey - Biography, Philosophy & Facts - HISTORY

WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY - August 19, 2022 - National Today

https://www.worldphotographyday.com/

National Senior Citizens Day: Date, Activity Ideas & How to Celebrate | Cake Blog (joincake.com)

August 2022 Diversity Calendar, Multicultural Holidays and Events (diversityresources.com)

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition (timeanddate.com)

Women's Equality Day | National Women's History Alliance (nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org)

2022 Ganesh Chaturthi | Ganesh Chauth Vrat | Ganeshotsav Puja Date and Time for Trenton, New Jersey, United States (drikpanchang.com)