

2022 Inclusive Holiday/Interfaith Observation Calendar

Our HGAR community represents a wide range of ethnic, cultural, faith, and religious communities. To assist us in promoting an inclusive community and help enhance the understanding among groups, we are presenting this interfaith/cultural calendar of observances to help increase awareness of and respect for religious obligations, ethnic & cultural festivities that may affect members of our community. In addition, we added our industry's monthly themes for 2022 for acknowledgement and awareness.

Note that this calendar provides a broad outline of significant days within major faith traditions, as well as ethnic and cultural celebrations. We encourage you to use this calendar and add to it as you wish. We hope this helps you become more aware, recognize our colleagues' days of observances/holidays, and avoid the unintentional exclusion of those whose faith/religious traditions are not currently observed nationally. *Note that Jewish and Islamic holidays begin at sundown the previous day and end at sundown on the date listed*

JANUARY

01 NEW YEAR'S DAY

The first day of the year in the Gregorian calendar, commonly used for civil dating purposes.

17 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY

The birthday of civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is on January 15th, but it is observed on the third Monday in January.

FEBRUARY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Celebrates Black History and African American culture in the United States.

01 NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY

Commemorates the signing of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865.

01 LUNAR NEW YEAR • Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist

Also known as the Spring Festival, an important festival celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar.

14 VALENTINE'S DAY

Celebrates the idea of romantic love.

21 PRESIDENTS' DAY

Honors all past presidents of the United States of America

MARCH 2022

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

commemorating and encouraging the study, observance, and celebration of the vital role of women in American history

02 ASH WEDNESDAY • Christian

The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.

08 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Celebration of the economic, political, and social achievements of women worldwide.

17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY • Christian

Christian Feast day of the patron saint of Ireland. In the U.S., a secular version is celebrated by people of all faiths through appreciation of all things Irish.

April 2022

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Commemorate the passage of the Federal Fair Housing Act.

03–02 RAMADAN • Islamic

Observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting to commemorate the first revelation of the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad.

10 PALM SUNDAY • Christian

Observed the Sunday before Easter/Pascha to commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

15 GOOD FRIDAY • Christian

Known as Holy Friday in Eastern Christianity, it commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Easter/Pascha.

16–23 PASSOVER/PESACH • Jewish

The eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread" celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage.

17 EASTER • Christian

Known as Pascha in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.

22 EARTH DAY: Invest in our planet

A day held to demonstrate and promote environmental awareness and calls for the protection of our planet.

May 2022

ADVOCACY MONTH

Designated by NAR as a celebration of REALTOR® Advocacy, designed to engage and educate members on the REALTOR® Party—namely Vote, Act and Invest.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH (aka. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month)

Recognizes the contributions and celebrates the culture of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

03 EID AL-FITR • Islamic

The "Feast of the Breaking of the Fast" marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting from dawn until dusk.

05 CINCO DE MAYO

In 1862 Mexican forces defeated French occupational forces in the Battle of Puebla.

08 MOTHER'S DAY

Children of all ages show appreciation for their mothers and mother figures.

21 WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Recognizes cultural diversity as a source of innovation, exchange, and creativity, as well as the obligation to create a more peaceful and equitable society based on mutual respect.

30 MEMORIAL DAY

A federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces.

June 2022

HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

A time to share our stories and create opportunities for future homeowners.

LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

Commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riot in New York City, the incident that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States.

05–06 SHAVUOT • Jewish

The “Feast of Weeks” celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.

19 FATHER’S DAY

Children of all ages show appreciation for their fathers and father figures.

19 JUNETEENTH

Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the U.S. to honor African-American freedom and achievement.

July 2022

04 INDEPENDENCE DAY

Anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence in 1776.

10 EID AL-ADHA • Islamic

Commemoration of Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience of a command from God. Marks the end of the annual Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).

26 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) DAY

Commemorates the 1990 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which guarantees equal opportunity for people with disabilities.

August 2022

07 TISH’A B’AV • Jewish

Mourning of the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem in 586 BCE and 70 CE.

23 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION

Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition.

26 WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Commemorates the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote.

September 2022

REALTOR® SAFETY MONTH

05 LABOR DAY

Celebrated the first Monday in September in recognition of U.S. workers.

15–15 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Celebrates the contributions, heritage, and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

26– 27 ROSH HASHANAH • Jewish

Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.

October 2022

05 YOM KIPPUR • Jewish

The “Day of Atonement” marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.

10 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

Celebrates and honors Native American history and culture. [The second Monday of October is also marked as a U.S. federal holiday, Columbus Day. Many people are opposed to the celebration of a man who led and committed atrocities against Indigenous people. Some states and cities in the U.S. have officially changed the day to Indigenous People's Day.

10–16 SUKKOT • Jewish

The week-long “Feast of Booths” commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.

11 COMING OUT DAY

Encourages honesty and openness about being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Commemorates October 11, 1987, when 500,000 people marched on Washington, DC, for gay and lesbian equality.

24 DIWALI • Hindu

Also called Deepavali, “Festival of Lights”, it celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.

31 HALLOWEEN

The eve of All Saints' Day. A celebration observed on the eve of the Catholic holiday All Saint's Day, which has also evolved into a secular celebration of the dead, scary stories, costumes, and "trick or treating" for candy.

November 2022

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Celebrates and honors the history and culture of Native Americans and indigenous people in the United States.

01 ALL SAINTS' DAY • Christian

Commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints. Eastern Christianity observes it on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

08 ELECTION DAY

A day set by U.S. law for the election of public officials.

11 VETERANS' DAY

Honors military veterans and the U.S. Armed Services.

24 THANKSGIVING DAY

Following a 19th century tradition, it commemorates the Pilgrims' harvest feast in the autumn of 1621. It is considered by some to be a "national day of mourning," in recognition of the conquest of Native Americans by colonists.

December 2022

10 HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

On this day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

18–26 HANUKKAH • Jewish

Eight-day "Festival of Lights" celebrating the rededication of the Temple to the service of God in 164 BCE. Commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Greek King, Antiochus, who sought to suppress freedom of worship.

25 CHRISTMAS • Christian

Commemorates the birth of Jesus.

26—1 KWANZAA

A seven-day celebration honoring African American heritage and its continued vitality. "Kwanzaa" means "first fruits (of the harvest)" in Swahili.

31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

In the Gregorian calendar, New Year's Eve, the last day of the year, is on December 31. In many countries, New Year's Eve is celebrated at evening social gatherings, where many people dance, eat, drink, etc.