

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

~ January 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>New Years Day</i>  <i>Temple Day – Buddhist</i>  <i>Oshogatsu/Shogatsu (Shinto)</i>  <i>State Holiday</i>	2	3
4	5 <i>Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)</i>	6 <i>Christmas – Armenian Orthodox Christian</i>  <i>Epiphany - Christian</i>	7 <i>Christmas – Eastern Christian</i>	8	9	10
11 <i>Baptism of the Lord (Christian)</i>	12	13	14 <i>Makar Sankranti (Hindu)</i>	15 <i>Seijin Shiki/Adults Day (Shinto)</i>	16 <i>Religious Freedom Day</i>	17
18 <i>World Religion Day – Bahá'í</i>	19 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>  <i>State Holiday</i>	20	21	22	23	24 <i>St. Jean Baptiste Day</i>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>Birth of Guru Har Rai (Sikh)</i>

- **Please see next page for January’s Holiday information.**
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## January 2015 Holiday's

- **January 1<sup>st</sup> New Years Day** – New Year's Day falls on January 1 and marks the start of a new year according to the Gregorian calendar.
- **January 1<sup>st</sup> Temple Day - Buddhist** – Many Buddhists of all traditions pay their respects and pray for good fortune for the new year at the temple.
- **January 1<sup>st</sup> Oshogatsu/Shogatsu (Shinto)** – Japanese New Year/a multiple – day celebration of the arrival of the New Year.
- **January 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)**, celebration of the birth of a Sodhi prince, who would one day become Gobind Singh, 10<sup>th</sup> and last guru of the Sikhs.
- **January 6<sup>th</sup> Christmas – Armenian Orthodox Christian** – Armenian Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus on Epiphany, except for Armenians living in Israel, who celebrate Christmas on January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **January 6<sup>th</sup> Epiphany (Christian, Theophany in Eastern Christianity)** – The revealing of Jesus as the Christ to the gentiles in the persons of the magi at Bethlehem.
- **January 7<sup>th</sup> Christmas – Eastern Christian** – Most orthodox churches celebrate Christmas 13 days later than other Christian churches based on their use of the Julian rather than the Gregorian version of the Western calendar.
- **January 11<sup>th</sup> Baptism of the Lord (Christian)** – Commemorates the baptism of Jesus Christ's by St. John the Baptist.
- **January 14<sup>th</sup> Makar Sankranti - Hindu** – Harvest festival and celebration of the sun-god. (Seasonal celebration recognizing the increasing length of days).
- **January 15<sup>th</sup> Seijin Shiki/Adults Day (Shinto)** – Young people who have turned 20 go to a shrine for their “coming of age” ceremony.
- **January 16<sup>th</sup> Religious Freedom Day** – American observance of the anniversary of the passage of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom in 1786. This national day strives to promote and protect religious expression rights.
- **January 18<sup>th</sup> World Religion Day – Bahàì** – Third Sunday in January. Global day of observance to promote understanding and dialogue between the followers of all religions.
- **January 19<sup>th</sup> Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday** – Martin Luther King Day is a federal holiday held on the third Monday of January. It celebrates the life and achievements of Martin Luther King Jr., an influential American civil rights leader. He is most well-known for his campaigns to end racial segregation on public transport and for racial equality in the United States.
- **January 31<sup>st</sup> Birth of Guru Har Rai (Sikh)** – Celebration of the birth of the seventh Guru of the Sikhs, known as the caretaker of creation.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar African American History Month

~ February 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Candlemas (Christian)</i>	3 <i>Tu B'Shuat (Jewish) Feb. 3<sup>d</sup>-4<sup>th</sup></i>	4	5	6	7
8 <i>Nirvana Day – Buddhist Feb 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup></i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday State Floating Holiday</i>	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>
15	16 <i>Presidents' Day State Holiday</i>	17 <i>Maha Shivaratri – Hindu</i>	18 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	19 <i>Lunar New Year</i>	20	21
22 <i>Washington's Birthday</i>	23	24	25	26 <i>Ayyam-i-ha or Intercalary Days – Bahàì Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>-March 1<sup>st</sup></i>	27	28

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## February 2015 Holiday's

- **February (Full Month) African American History Month** – Celebrates Black History and African culture in the United States.
- **February 2<sup>nd</sup> Candlemas (Christian)** – Celebration of the purification of Mary and the presentation of Jesus in the temple.
- **February 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Tu B'Shuat (Jewish)** – Names for the festival of the new year of trees. In certain communities, it is customary to eat 15 different kinds of fruit on this day.
- **February 8<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> Nirvana day (Buddhist)** – Celebrates the day when the historical Buddha achieved Par nirvana, or complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body. Sometimes celebrated on February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- **February 12<sup>th</sup> Lincoln's Birthday** - a legal holiday in some states of the U.S., in honor of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.
- **February 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day** - The day was first associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished. In 18th-century England, it evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards.
- **February 16<sup>th</sup> Presidents' Day** – Washington's Birthday, also known as Presidents' Day, is a federal holiday held on the third Monday of February. The day honors presidents of the United States, including George Washington, the USA's first president.
- **February 17<sup>th</sup> Maha Shivaratri/Shiva Ratri/Night of Shiva (Hindu)** – Special tribute celebration to Shiva, the lord of destruction.
- **February 18<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday (Western Christian)** – The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.
- **February 19<sup>th</sup> Lunar New Year** – On this day Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese New Year are celebrated. A festive holiday celebrated for about two weeks. Each year is symbolized by a different animal.
- **February 22<sup>nd</sup> Washington's Birthday** - Formerly observed to commemorate the birth of George Washington in 1732. This holiday is now included in the observances of Presidents' Day.
- **February 26<sup>th</sup> thru March 1<sup>st</sup> AYYAM-I-HA or Intercalary Days (Baha'i)** – The Ayyam-i-ha, or "Days of Ha" are devoted to spiritual preparation for the fast, celebrating , hospitality, charity and gift giving. They are celebrated the four days, five in leap year, before the last month of the Baha'i year.

**Office of Diversity Management Calendar**  
**National Women's History Month**

~ March 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>March 2 – March 20<sup>th</sup> Nineteen-Day Fast (Baha'i)</i>	3 <i>Hina-matsuri/Festival of Dolls (Shinto)</i>	4 <i>4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Taanit Esther/Fast of Esther (Jewish)</i>	5 <i>Purim (Jewish)  Magha Puja/Sangha Day (Buddhist)</i>	6 <i>Holi (Hindu)  Hola Mohalla (Lunar Calendar, Sikh)</i>	7
8 <i>International Women's Day  Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19	20 <i>Vernal Equinox (First Day of Spring)</i>	21 <i>Nowruz/Naw-Ruz (Iranian New Year)  International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</i>
22	23	24	25 <i>Annunciation (Christian)</i>	26	27	28
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	30	31				

- **Please see next page for March's Holiday information.**
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## March 2015 Holiday's

- **March (Full Month) National Women's History Month** – Honors women as significant agents to historical change.
- **March 2<sup>nd</sup> – March 20<sup>th</sup> Nineteen-Day Fast (Bahà'i)** – Baha'is between 15 and 70 years of age do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset and set aside time for prayer and meditation. Period of reflection on spiritual progress and detachment from material desires.
- **March 3<sup>rd</sup> Hina-matsuri/Festival of Dolls (Shinto)** – Day of prayer for young girls.
- **March 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Taanit Esther/Fast of Esther (Jewish)** – Commemorates the Fast observed by Mordechai and Esther and all Israel before a historic war.
- **March 5<sup>th</sup> Purim Feast of Lots (Jewish)** - Marks the salvation of the Jews of ancient Persia from Haman's plot to exterminate them, through the intervention of Queen Esther.
- **March 5<sup>th</sup> Magha Puja/Sangha Day (Buddhist)** - Commemorates a day when 1,250 monks, all from different places and on their own initiative, spontaneously came to pay homage to the Buddha.
- **March 6<sup>th</sup> Holi (Hindu)** – Celebration of spring, colors, and good over evil, among other themes.
- **March 6<sup>th</sup> Hola Mohalla (Lunar calendar, Sikh)** – Festival of processions that originated from historical army demonstrations reminding followers of the importance of courage and preparedness.
- **March 8<sup>th</sup> International Women's Day** – Celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women worldwide.
- **March 8<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time Begins** - time as adjusted to achieve longer evening daylight, especially in summer, by setting the clocks an hour ahead of the standard time.
- **March 17<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day (Christian)** – Feast day of the patron saint of Ireland.
- **March 20<sup>th</sup> Vernal Equinox** – The date when night and day are nearly the same length. It marks the first day of the season of spring.
- **March 21<sup>st</sup> International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** – Call to action to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination worldwide.
- **March 21<sup>st</sup> Nowruz (Zoroastrian)** – A traditional ancient Iranian festival celebrating the first day of Spring and the Iranian New year. Also celebrated as New Year's Day in Baha'i tradition (Naw-Ruz).
- **March 25<sup>th</sup> Annunciation (Christian)** – Celebrates and angel's appearance to the Virgin Mary, announcing that she was to be the mother of Jesus Christ.
- **March 29<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday (Christian)** – Beginning of the Holy Week. Commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, when palm leaves were placed along his path.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

~ April 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <i>Holy Thursday (Christian)</i>	3 <i>Good Friday</i> <i>Fast of the Firstborn (Jewish)</i>	4 <i>Holy Saturday</i> <i>Theravada New Year (Buddhist)</i> <i>4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Pesach/Passover</i>
5 <i>Easter</i> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	6	7	8 <i>Hanamatsuri (Buddhist)</i>	9	10	11
12	13 <i>Baisakhi/Vaisakhi (Sikh)</i>	14 <i>Birth of Guru Nanak (Sikh)</i> <i>Hola Mohalla</i>	15 <i>Lord's Super (Jehavah's Witnesses)</i>	16	17	18 <i>Birth of Guru Tegh Bahadur &amp; Guru Angad Dev</i>
19	20 <i>Patriot Day</i>	21 <i>Festival of Ridvan</i> <i>Groundation Day/Anniversary of Haile Selassie to Jamica</i>	22	23	24 <i>Arbor Day</i>	25
26	27	28	29 <i>Ninth Day of Ridevan</i>	30		

- ***Please see next page for April's Holiday information.***
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## April 2015 Holiday's

- **April 2<sup>nd</sup> Holy Thursday/Great Thursday (Christian)** – Commemorates the Last Supper, at which Jesus and the Disciples were together for the last time before the Crucifixion; and the sacrament of the Eucharist was instituted.
- **April 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday** – Before Easter Sunday, on which the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ is commemorated in the Christian Church. It is traditionally a day of fasting and penance.
- **April 3<sup>rd</sup> Fast of the Firstborn (Jewish)** – First-born male of every Jewish household fasts in commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> plague of Passover.
- **April 4<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil (Christian)** – Final day of season of Lent.
- **April 4<sup>th</sup> – Theravada New Year (Buddhist)** – In Theravada countries the New Year starts on three days from the first full moon day in April.
- **April 4<sup>th</sup> – April 11<sup>th</sup> Pesach/Passover** – Celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. During this 8-day Spring festival, matzoh (unleavened bread) is eaten.
- **April 5<sup>th</sup> Easter** – The most important and oldest festival of Christian Church, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ and held (in the Western Church) between March 21 and April 25, on the first Sunday after the full moon following the northern spring equinox.
- **April 5<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday** – The Sunday before Easter, observed by Christians in commemoration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, when palm fronds were strewn before him.
- **April 8<sup>th</sup> Hanamatsuri (Buddhist)** – (Buddha's Birthday) Celebrates the birth of the founder of Buddhism.
- **April 13<sup>th</sup> Baisakhi/Vaisakhi (Sikh)** – Sikh observance of rejection of Indian caste system and formation of Khalsa (Sikh Brotherhood).
- **April 14<sup>th</sup> Birth of Guru Nanak (Sikh)** – Birth of the founder and first Guru, who challenged and questioned the existing religious tenants & laid the foundations of the Sikh tradition.
- **April 14<sup>th</sup> Hola Mohalla** – Festival of processions that originated from historical army demonstrations reminding followers of the importance of courage and preparedness.
- **April 15<sup>th</sup> – Lord's Supper (Jehovah's Witnesses)** – Also called Memorial of Christ's Death, Jehovah's Witnesses commemorate Jesus' last meal with this apostles and his death once a year.
- **April 15<sup>th</sup> Yom Hashoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day (Jewish)** – Many people in the United States observe Yom Hashoah by remembering Holocaust victims who died during World War II.
- **April 18<sup>th</sup> Birth of Guru Tegh Bahadur & Guru Angad Dev (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – 9<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> gurus of Sikhism. The Ten gurus of Sikhism are hailed for their devotion to renewing eternal wisdom and emphasizing the simplicity of the religion.
- **April 20<sup>th</sup> Patriot Day** – In the United States, Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance occurs on September 11 of each year, designated in memory of the 2,977 killed in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.
- **April 21<sup>st</sup> Festival of Ridvan (Bah'i)** – Beginning of the most important festival period, the 12 days which Baha'u'llah spent in the garden of Ridvan, before his exile to Constantinople.
- **April 21<sup>st</sup> Groundation Day/Anniversary of Haile Selassie to Jamaica (Rasta)** – Marks the date Haile Selassie I Visited Jamaica in 1966. The visit was the only time the Emperor visited Jamaica.
- **April 22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day** – Is an annual event, on which events are held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It was first celebrated in 1970, and is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network, and is celebrated in more than 192 countries each year.
- **April 23<sup>rd</sup> Administrative Professionals Day** – Also known as Secretaries Day, it is an unofficial secular holiday observed in several countries to recognize the work of secretaries, administrative assistants, receptionists, and other administrative support professionals.
- **April 24<sup>th</sup> Arbor Day** – (from the Latin arbor, meaning tree) is a holiday in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plan and care for trees. It originated in Nebraska.
- **April 25<sup>th-26<sup>th</sup> Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)</sup>** – Many Jewish Americans celebrate Rosh Hashana (or Rosh Hashanah), which is also known as the Jewish New Year. Rosh Hashana starts on the first day of Tishrei (or Tishri), which is the seventh month in the Jewish calendar, and may last for two days. **April 29<sup>th</sup> Ninth day of Ridvan (Baha'i)** – Major holy day in Baha'i on which work is suspended to commemorate when Baha'u'llahs declared his mission to his companions.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

◀ Apr 2015	~ May 2015 ~						Jun 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1 <i>Beltane (Pagan)</i>	2 <i>Twelfth Day of Ridvan (Bah'i)</i> <i>Birth of Guru Arjan Dev (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)</i>	
3	4	5 <i>Cinco DeMayo</i> <i>Worlds Teacher Day</i>	6 <i>Nurses day</i>	7 <i>Lag B'omer (Jewish)</i>	8	9	
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12	13	14 <i>Ascension Day (Christian)</i>	15	16 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 <i>Birth of Guru Amar Das (Nanaskhahi cal, Sikh)</i>	
24 <i>Pentecost/Whitsan (Christian)</i> <i>24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> – Shavuot (Jewish)</i>	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>State Holiday</i>	26	27		29	30	
31 <i>Trinity Sunday</i>							

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[May 2015 Holiday's](#)

- **May 1<sup>st</sup> Beltane (Pagan)** – Fire festival that celebrates the coming of summer and their fertility of the coming year.
- **May 2<sup>nd</sup> Twelfth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)** – Major holy day in Baha'i on which work is suspended to commemorate Baha'u'llah's announcement of his claim to prophethood and his departure from the garden of Ridvan.
- **May 2<sup>nd</sup> Birth of Guru Arjan Dev (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – Guru Arjan was the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr.
- **May 5<sup>th</sup> Cinco De Mayo** – Is observed in Mexico and Mexican-American communities in the United States to commemorate the Mexican victory over the French in Battle of Puebla in 1862.
- **May 5<sup>th</sup> Worlds Teachers Day** – In many countries, Teacher's Day are intended to be special days for the appreciation of teachers, and may include celebrations to honor them for their special contributions in a particular field area, or the community in general. The date on which Teachers' day is celebrate varies from country to country. Teachers' day is distinct from World Teachers' Day, which is officially celebrated across the world on October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **May 6<sup>th</sup> Nurses Day (IND)** – Is celebrated around the world on May 12<sup>th</sup> of each year, to mark the contributions nurses make to society.
- **May 7<sup>th</sup> Lag B'Omer (Jewish)** – According to the Talmud, 24,000 disciples of the Jewish scholar, Rabbi Akiva, died of a plague during the period between Pesach and Shavuot because they did not sufficiently honor one another. The plague ceased on Lag B'Omer which, consequently, became a Jewish festival.
- **May 10<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day** – Is a celebration honoring mothers and motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It is celebrated on various days in many parts of the world, most commonly in March or May.
- **May 14<sup>th</sup> Ascension Day (Christian)** – The 40<sup>th</sup> day after Easter Commemorates the ascension of Jesus into Heaven.
- **May 16<sup>th</sup> Armed Forces Day** – This is the day on which we have the welcome opportunity to pay special tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces.
- **May 23<sup>rd</sup> Birth of Guru Amar Das (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – Celebration of the birth of third guru, who worked for better conditions for women and pushed for more cohesion among Sikh communities.
- **May 24<sup>th</sup> Pentecost (Christian)** – Pentecost is a Christian holy day commemorating the descent of the Holy Ghost upon the disciples of Jesus Christ, according to the New Testament of the Bible. It is also known as Whitsunday, or Whit Sunday.
- **May 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Shavuot (Jewish)** - Festival of Weeks, commemorates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai
- **May 25<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day** – A day which those who died in active military service are remembered. Traditionally observed on May 30, but now officially observed on the last Monday in May.
- **May 31<sup>st</sup> Trinity Sunday** – Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost and is celebrated by many Christians in the United States. It is one of the few feasts that are celebrated as a doctrine instead of an event. It is also symbolic of the unity of the Trinity.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

◀ May 2015	~ June 2015 ~						Jul 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2 <i>Nisfshabaan/Night of Salvation (Islamic)</i>	3	4 <i>Feast of the Body of Christ/Corpus Christi (Christian)</i>	5 <i>World Environment Day</i>	6	
7 <i>All Saints Day (Christian)</i>	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16 <i>Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev</i>	17	18 <i>Ramadan (Islamic)</i>	19 <i>Juneteenth</i>	20	
21 <i>Fathers' Day</i> <i>First Day of Summer</i> <i>Litha/Summer Solstice (Pagan)</i>	22	23	24 <i>St. Jean Baptiste Day</i>	25	26	27	
28	29	30					

- **Please see next page for June's Holiday information.**
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## June 2015 Holiday's

- **June 2<sup>nd</sup> Nisf Shabaan/Night of Salvation (Islamic)** – Night of seeking pardon and repenting to Allah, remembering past sins and setting intentions to avoid committing the sins in the future.
- **June 4<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Body of Christ/Corpus Christi (Christian)** – Celebrates the institution of the sacrament of Holy Communion at the Last Supper.
- **June 5<sup>th</sup> World Environment Day** – Is celebrated every year on June 5 to raise global awareness of the need to take positive environmental action.
- **June 7<sup>th</sup> All Saints Day (Christian)** – Feast day to remember all saints and martyrs, known and unknown, throughout Christian history.
- **June 14<sup>th</sup> Flag Day** – In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on that day in 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the Army Birthday on this date; Congress adopted the “the American continental army” after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.
- **June 16<sup>th</sup> Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – Memorial of the fifth guru and first martyr, one of 10 who taught compassion, love, dedication, hard work, worship of one God, and the commitment to peace and harmony for all the peoples of the world.
- **June 18<sup>th</sup> Ramadan (Islamic)** – The ninth month in the Islamic calendar, 30 days of strict fasting from sunrise to sundown in honor of the first revelations to the Prophet Muhammad.
- **June 19<sup>th</sup> Juneteenth** – A festival held annually on the nineteenth of June by African Americans (esp. in the southern states), to commemorate emancipation from slavery in Texas on that day in 1865.
- **June 21<sup>st</sup> Father's Day** – Is a celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society.
- **June 21<sup>st</sup> First Day of Summer** – In the United States and the rest of the northern hemisphere, the first day of the summer season is the day of the year when the Sun is farthest north (on June 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup>). This day is known as the Summer Solstice.
- **July 21<sup>st</sup> Litha/Summer Solstic Pagan** – Honors the longest day of the year as well as the power of the sun.
- **June 24<sup>th</sup> St. Jean Baptiste Day** – Held annually on June 24, is the feast day of St. John the Baptist, a Jewish preacher who baptized Jesus in the River Jordan.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

◀ Jun 2015	~ July 2015 ~						Aug 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1	2 <i>Asala/Dharma Day (Buddhist)</i>	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	
5 <i>Birth of Guru Hargobind (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)</i>	6	7	8	9 <i>Martyrdrom of the Bab (Baha'i)</i>	10	11	
12	13 <i>Laila Al-Qadr (Islamic)  Bon (Buddhist)</i>	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Eid Al-Fitr (Islamic)</i>	
19	20	21	22	23 <i>Birth of Guru Har Krishen (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)  Birth of Haile Selassie (Rastafarian)</i>	24	25	
26 <i>Tisha B'Av (Jewish)  Parents Day</i>	27	28 <i>Dab Shid (Somali New Year)</i>	29	30	31		

- **Please see next page for July's Holiday information.**
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## July 2015 Holiday's

- **July 2<sup>nd</sup> Asala/Dharma Day (Buddhist)** – Festival marking the beginning of Buddha's teachings of peace and enlightenment.
- **July 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day** – A holiday celebrating the anniversary of a country's independence from another country that ruled it in the past; especially: July 4 celebrated as a legal holiday in the U.S. in honor of the day when the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776.
- **July 5<sup>th</sup> Birth of Guru Hargobind (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – Sixth of the 10 gurus who was extremely skilled in matters of the state and taught of the unification of temporal and spiritual power.
- **July 9<sup>th</sup> Martyrdom of the Bab (Baha'i)** – Observance of the anniversary of the execution of the Bab in 1850.
- **July 13<sup>th</sup> Laila Al-Qadr (Islamic)** – Special celebration during Ramadan that commemorates the night when the first verses of the Qur'an were revealed to Muhammad.
- **July 13<sup>th</sup> Bon (Buddhist)** – Occasion for rejoicing the enlightenment offered by the Buddha. Day of remembrance of all those who have passed away.
- **July 18<sup>th</sup> Eid al Fitr** – Muslim celebrating commemorating the end of Ramadan. It is a festival of thanksgiving to all for enjoying the month of Ramadan. It involves wearing one's finest clothing, saying prayers, and nurturing understanding of all religions.
- **July 23<sup>rd</sup> Birth of Guru Har Krishen (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – The eighth of the 10 gurus who healed and comforted many during his lifetime.
- **July 23<sup>rd</sup> Birth of Haile Selassie (Rastafarian)** – Haile Selassie I was Ethiopia's 225<sup>th</sup> and last emperor, whom Rastafarians believe to be divine.
- **July 24<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Day (Mormo)** – Celebration of arrival of the first pioneers at the Great Salt Lake in 1847.
- **July 26<sup>th</sup> Tisha B'Av (Jewish)** – Day of fasting and mourning on the ninth of Av commemorating the destruction of the first and the second Holy Temples.
- **July 26<sup>th</sup> Parents' Day in the United States** – Parents' Day is held on the fourth Sunday of every July. This was established in 1994 when President Bill Clinton signed a Congressional Resolution into law (36 U.S.C. § 135) for "recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children."
- **July 28<sup>th</sup> Dab Shid (Somali New Year)** – Celebration of Somali solar New Year.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

◀ Jul 2015	~ August 2015 ~					Sep 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <i>Lughnasadh/Lammas (Pagan)</i>
2 <i>International Friendship Day</i>	3	4	5	6 <i>Transfiguration (Christian)</i>	7	8
9 <i>International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples</i>	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Assumption Day Bon/Obon (Buddhist) Dormition of Theotokos</i>
16	17	18 <i>Jamshedi Noruz (Shenshai cal, Zoroastrian)</i>	19 <i>National Aviation Day</i>	20	21	22
23 <i>Khordad Sal (Shenshai cal, Zoroastrian)</i>	24	25	26 <i>Women's Equality Day</i>	27	28 <i>Ulambana/Ghost Festival (Buddhist)</i>	29 <i>Raksha Bahnan/Rakhi (Hindu)</i>
30	31					

- **Please see next page for August's Holiday information.**
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## August 2015 Holiday's

- **August 1<sup>st</sup> Lughnasadh/Lammas (Pagan)** – Celebration of the beginning of the harvest season; also a celebration of the Celtic go lugh.
- **August 2<sup>nd</sup> International Friendship Day** – Is a day for celebrating friendship. The day has been celebrated in several southern South American countries for many years, particularly in Paraguay, where the first World Friendship Day was proposed in 1958.
- **August 6<sup>th</sup> Transfiguration** – A holiday recognized by orthodox Christians to celebrate when Jesus became radiant, and communed with Moses and Elijah on Mount Tabor. To celebrate, adherents have a feast.
- **August 9<sup>th</sup> Internal Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples** – Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges facing them today.
- **August 15<sup>th</sup> Assumption Day** – The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into heaven, according to the beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodoxy, Oriental Orthodoxy, and parts of Anglicanism, was the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life.
- **August 15<sup>th</sup> Bon/Obon (Buddhist)** – Occasion for rejoicing in the enlightenment offered by the Buddha. Day of remembrance of all those who have passed away. Also known as Obon-e.
- **August 15<sup>th</sup> Dormition of Theotokos** – The feast day of the Assumption of Mary, also known as Assumption Day, celebrates the day that God assumed the Virgin Mary into Heaven following her death, according to popular Christian belief. It is the principal feast day of the Virgin Mother.
- **August 18<sup>th</sup> Jamshedi Noruz (Shenshai cal, Zoroastrian)** – Obligatory feast dedicated to fire; Zoroastrian New Year celebration.
- **August 19<sup>th</sup> National Aviation Day** – honors the birthday of the American inventor and early manufacturer of airplanes, Orville Wright (1871-1948), as well as the progress that has been made in manned flight since the Wright Brothers made their historic 120-foot at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in 1903. President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed August 19 as Aviation Day in 1939, and since that time celebrations have been sponsored in a number of states buy organizations involved in aviation.
- **August 23<sup>rd</sup> Khordad Sal (Shenshai cal, Zoroastrian)** – Marks the birth anniversary of Prophet Zoroaster, founder of Zoroastrianism.
- **August 26<sup>th</sup> Women's Equality Day** – is a day proclaimed each year by the United States President to commemorate the granting of the vote to women throughout the country on an equal basis with men.
- **August 28<sup>th</sup> Ulambana/Ghost Festival (Buddhist)** – The day for helping those beings who are suffering so that they can obtain libration.
- **August 29<sup>th</sup> Raksha Banhan/Rakhi (Hindu)** – Celebrates the special bond between brother and sister by ritual tying of holy thread around the wrist, signifying love and protection.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

### NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH SEPTEMBER 15 THRU OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>

◀ Aug 2015	~ September 2015 ~					Oct 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 <i>Krishna Jayanti (Hindu)</i>
6	7 <i>Labor Day State Holiday</i>	8 <i>Nativity of Theotokos (Orthodox Christian)</i>	9	10	11	12
13 <i>Grandparents Day</i>	14 <i>Triumph of the Cross (Christian)</i>	15	16 <i>Step Family Day  Fast of Gedalliah (Jewish)</i>	17 <i>Ganesh Chaturhi (Hindu)</i>	18	19
20	21 <i>International Day of Peace</i>	22	23 <i>First Day of Autumn</i>	24	25 <i>Native American Day</i>	26
27 <i>Gold Star Mother's Day</i>	28 <i>Teacher's Day</i>	29	30			

- ***Please see next page for September's Holiday information.***
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## September 2015 Holiday's

- **September 5<sup>th</sup> Krishna Jayanti (Hindu)** – Festival of celebrations and rituals to mark the birth of Krishna.
- **September 7<sup>th</sup> Labor Day** – A public holiday or day of festivities held in honor of working people, in the US and Canada on the first Monday in September, in many other countries on May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **September 8<sup>th</sup> Nativity of Theotokos (Orthodox Christian)** – Commemoration of the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus.
- **September 13<sup>th</sup> National Grandparents' Day** – Is a secular holiday celebrated in the United States since 1978 and officially recognized in a number of countries on various days of the year, either as one holiday or sometimes as a separate Grandmothers' Day and Grandfathers' Day.
- **September 14<sup>th</sup> Triumph of the Cross (Christian)** – Catholics and Orthodox Christians reflect on the salvation they believe inherent in the symbol of the Cross.
- **September 16<sup>th</sup> Step Family Day** – Was established to recognize and show appreciation for the importance and value of step-parents and extended families.
- **September 16<sup>th</sup> Fast of Gedaliah (Jewish)** - Tzom Gedaliah ( **Fast of Gedaliah** ) is an annual fast day instituted by the Jewish Sages to commemorate the assassination of Gedaliah Ben Achikam, the Governor of Israel during the days of Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylonia.
- **September 17<sup>th</sup> Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)** – Celebration of the birth of Ganesha, the God of intellect and wisdom.
- **September 21<sup>st</sup> The International Day of Peace** – Sometimes unofficially known as World Peace Day, is observed annually on September 21. It is dedicated to world peace, and specifically the absence of war and violence, such as might be occasioned by a temporary ceasefire in a combat zone for humanitarian aid access. The day was first celebrated in 1982, and is kept by many nations, political groups, military groups, and peoples. In 2013, for the first time, the Day was dedicated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to peace education, the key preventive means to reduce war sustainable.
- **September 23<sup>rd</sup> First Day of Autumn** – Often known as fall in the US and Canada, is one of the four temperate seasons. Autumn marks the transition from summer into winter, in September (Northern Hemisphere) or March (Southern Hemisphere) when the arrival of night becomes noticeably earlier.
- **September 25<sup>th</sup> Native American Day** – Is a state holiday in California, established in 1968 to honor Native American cultures and contributions to the state and the United States. Also called American Indian Day, it is observed annually on the fourth Friday in September.
- **September 27<sup>th</sup> Gold Star Mother's Day** – The American Gold Star Mothers Inc. was formed in the United States shortly after World War I to provide support for mothers who lost sons or daughters in the war. The name came from the custom of families of servicemen hanging a banner called a Service Flag in the window of their homes.
- **September 28<sup>th</sup> Teacher's Day (Confucianism)** – Commemorates the birth of Confucius, and honors the teaching profession.

**Office of Diversity Management Calendar**  
**NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**  
**NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**

◀ Aug 2015	~ October 2015 ~						Oct 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2 <i>Feast of Guardian Angels (Christian)</i>	3	
4 <i>Hoshanah Rabbah (Jewish)</i>	5 <i>Worlds Teacher Day</i>	6 <i>Simchat Torah (Jewish)</i>	7	8	9 <i>Birth of Guru Ram Das (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)</i>	10	
11	12 <i>State Holiday – Columbus Day  Thanksgiving (Canada)</i>	13	14 <i>Muharram (Islamic)  Al-Hijira (Islamic)</i>	15	16	17 <i>Kenname Festival (Shinto)</i>	
18	19	20 <i>Birth of the Bab (Baha'!)</i>	21	22 <i>Dassera/Durga Puja (Hindu)</i>	23 <i>Ashura (Islamic)</i>	24 <i>United Nations Day</i>	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>Halloween  Reformation Day (Protestant Christian)  All Hallow's Eve (Christian)  Samhain/Halloween (Pagan)</i>	

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## October 2015 Holiday's

- **October 2nd Feast of Guardian Angels (Christian)** – Commemoration of the belief in every person having a guardian angel who watches over them and helps them to attain salvation.
- **October 4<sup>h</sup> Hoshanah Rabbah (Jewish)** – the seventh and last day of Sukkot, a day of final sealing of judgment during the festival.
- **October 5<sup>th</sup> Worlds Teachers Day** - The United Nations' (UN) World Teachers' Day commemorates the work of teachers and their contributions to society. It is observed on October 5 each year.
- **October 6<sup>th</sup> Simchat Torah (Jewish)** – Celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch (Torah) and its beginning anew, thus affirming that the study of God's word is an unending process. Concludes the Sukkot festival.
- **October 9<sup>th</sup> Birth of Guru Ram Das (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – Celebration of the fourth of ten master gurus of Sikhism, who designed the Golden Temple.
- **October 12<sup>h</sup> Columbus Day** – A legal holiday commemorating the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492.
- **October 12<sup>h</sup> Thanksgiving Canada** – An annual Canadian holiday which celebrates the harvest and other blessings of the past year.
- **October 14<sup>h</sup> Muharram (Islamic)** – The first month of the Islamic new year.
- **October 14<sup>h</sup> Al-Hijira (Islamic)** – The Islamic New Year, is the first day of the month of Muharram
- **October 17<sup>th</sup> Kenname Festival (Shinto)** – Celebration of the autumn harvest.
- **October 20<sup>th</sup> Birth of the Bab (Bah'i)** – Observance of the anniversary of the birth of Siyyid Ali Muhammad, known as “the Bab”.
- **October 22<sup>nd</sup> Dassera/Durga Puja (Hindu)** – Anniversary of the day when Rama killed the evil demon Ravana; also celebrates the Durga.
- **October 23<sup>rd</sup> Ashura (Islamic)** – Celebrated Moses' exodus from Egypt. For Shi'a Muslims, it also marks the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Kerbala in 680 CE.
- **October 24<sup>th</sup> United Nations Day** – A day for celebrating the founding of the United Nations.
- **October 31<sup>st</sup> Halloween** – The eve of All Saints' Day, commonly celebrated by children who dress in costume and solicit candy or other treats door-to-door.
- **October 31<sup>st</sup> Reformation Day (Protestant Christian)** – Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.
- **October 31<sup>st</sup> All Hallows' Eve (Christian)** – Preparations, prayers, and fasting prior to the feast of all saints the following day.
- **October 31<sup>st</sup> Samhain/Hallowe'en (Pagan)** – Feast of the Dead, honoring life, wisdom, and endings that take place throughout the course of life.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

### NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

◀ Oct 2015	~ November 2015 ~						Dec 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 <i>All Saints Day (Western Christian)</i> <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>	2 <i>All Souls' Day (Christian)</i> <i>Coronation of Haile Selassie (Rasta)</i>	3 <i>Election Day</i>	4	5	6	7	
8	9 <i>Kristallnacht</i>	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> <i>State Holiday</i>	12 <i>Birth of Baha'u'l-ah (Baha'i)</i>	13	14	
15 <i>Shichogsan/Seven-Five-Three Festival (Shinto)</i>	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24 <i>Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)</i>	25 <i>Birth of Guru Nanak (Lunar cal, Sikh)</i>	26 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> <i>State Holiday</i> <i>Day of Covenant (Baha'I)</i>	27	28 <i>Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha (Baha'i)</i>	
29 <i>Beginning of Advent (Christian)</i>	30						

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## November 2015 Holiday's

- **November 1<sup>st</sup> All Saints' Day** – Christian festival in honor of all the saints, held (in the Western Church) on November 1.
- **November 1<sup>st</sup> Daylight Saving Time Ends** – Time during which clocks are set one hour more ahead of standard time to provide more daylight at the end of the working day during late spring, summer, and early fall.
- **November 2<sup>nd</sup> All Souls' Day** – Observed in some Christian churches as a day of prayer for the souls of the faithful departed.
- **November 2<sup>nd</sup> Coronation of Haile Selassie (Rasta)** – Celebration of the coronation of Haile Selassie as King of Ethiopia.
- **November 3<sup>rd</sup> Election Day (in the U.S.)** - The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November on which national elections are held for electors of the President and vice President in those years evenly divisible by four.
- **November 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Kristallnacht** – Dates of 1938 Nazi riots against Jews in which many people were killed, hundreds of synagogues burned, and thousands of Jewish-owned businesses destroyed.
- **November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans' Day** - A public holiday held on the anniversary of the end of World War I (November 11) to honor US veterans and victims of all wars. It replaced Armistice Day in 1954.
- **November 12<sup>th</sup> Birth of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)** – Commemorates birth of the founder of Baha'i faith in 1817.
- **November 15<sup>th</sup> Shichogosan/Seven-Five-Three Festival (Shinto)** – Means Seven Five Three.” Girls of age three and seven, and boys of age three and five are celebrated on Shichigosan, prayers are offered for their good health and growth.
- **November 24<sup>th</sup> Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Nanakshahi cal, Sikh)** – Mourning the death of the 9<sup>th</sup> guru of Sikhism. The Ten gurus of Sikhism are hailed for their devotion to renewing eternal wisdom and emphasizing the simplicity of the religion.
- **November 25<sup>th</sup> Birth of Guru Nanak (Lunar cal, Sikh)** – Birth of the founder and first Guru, who challenged and questioned the existing religious tenants and laid the foundations of the Sikh tradition.
- **November 26<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving (in North America)** - An annual national holiday marked by religious observances and a traditional meal including turkey. The holiday commemorates a harvest festival celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621, and is held in the US on the fourth Thursday in November. A similar holiday is held in Canada, usually on the second Monday in October.
- **November 26<sup>th</sup> Day of Covenant (Baha'I)** – Commemorates Baha'u'llah's appointment of his eldest son, "Abdu'l-Baha, as the Center of His Covenant.
- **November 28<sup>th</sup> Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha (Baha'i)** – Anniversary of the death of 'Abdul'-Baha, son of Baha'u'llah and his appointed successor, on Nov. 28, 1921 in Haifa, in what is now northern Israel.
- **November 29<sup>th</sup> Beginning of Advent (Christian)** – The period beginning four Sundays before Christmas and observed by some Christians as a season of prayer and fasting.

## Office of Diversity Management Calendar

◀ Nov 2015	~ December 2015 ~						Jan 2015 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 <i>AIDS Awareness Day</i>	2	3	4	5 <i>Chanukah/Feast of Dedication (5<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>)</i>	
6 <i>Hanukkah (6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>)</i>	7 <i>National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8 <i>Bodhi Day (Buddhist)</i> <i>Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Christian)</i>	9	10 <i>Human Rights Day</i>	11	12	
13	14	15 <i>Bill of Rights Day</i>	16	17	18	19	
20	21 <i>Forefather's Day</i>	22 <i>First Day of Winter</i>	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve (Christian)</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day State Holiday</i>	26 <i>Kwanzaa December 26<sup>th</sup> – January 1</i>	
27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>			

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## December 2015 Holiday's

- **December 1<sup>st</sup> AIDS Awareness Day** – Is a day dedicated by the international community to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS, to demonstrate support for those living with HIV or AIDS, and to remember those who have died.
- **December 5<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Chanukah/Feast of Dedication (Feast of Lights)** – Eight-day festival celebrating the rededication of the Temple to the service of God (165 B.C.F.E). Commemorates the Maccabean victory over Antiochus who sought to suppress freedom of worship.
- **December 6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Hanukkah** – Many Jewish communities in the United States observe the first day of Hanukkah, which marks the start of Hanukkah, also known as Chanukah or Festival of Lights. Hanukkah is an eight-day Jewish observance that remembers the Jewish people's struggle for religious freedom.
- **December 7<sup>th</sup> National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day** – Which is observed annually on December 7, is to remember and honor all those who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.
- **December 8<sup>th</sup> Bodhi Day (Buddhist)** – Celebration of the Enlightenment of founder Shakyamuni Buddha, ca. 96 B.C.E.
- **December 8<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Christian)** – Observance commemorating the doctrine that Mary, from the moment of her conception, was free from the stain of Original Sin.
- **December 10<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Day** – Is celebrated annually across the world on December 10. The date was chosen to honor the United Nations General Assembly's adoption and proclamation, on 10 December 1948, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the first global enunciation of human rights and one of the first major achievements of the new United Nations.
- **December 15<sup>th</sup> Bill of Rights Day** – On December 15, 1791, the 10 original amendments of the United States Constitution became effective.
- **December 21<sup>st</sup> Forefather's Day** – Is a holiday celebrated in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on December 22. It is a commemoration of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on December 21, 1620. It was introduced in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1769.
- **December 22<sup>nd</sup> First Day of Winter** – In the United States and the rest of the northern hemisphere, the first day of the winter season is the day of the year when the Sun is farthest south (on December 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>). This day is known as the Winter Solstice.
- **December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve (Christian)** – Day of preparation for Christmas day, the day of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.
- **December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day** – Celebrates Jesus' birth.
- **December 26<sup>th</sup> – January 1 Kwanzaa** – An African-American holiday started by Maulana Karenga in 1966 to celebrate universal African-American heritage. It is observed by lighting candles to represent each of the holiday's seven principles; libations, feasting, and gift giving.
- **December 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve** – In the Gregorian calendar, New Year's Eve (also Old Year's Day or Saint Sylvester's Day in many countries), 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 alcoholic beverages, and watch or light fireworks to mark the New Year. Some people attend a watch night service. The celebrations generally go on past midnight into January 1 (New Year's Day).