

October 2020 Spokane Area Diversity/Cultural Events Calendar

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). Public Law 176, enacted by the Congress in 1945, designated the first week in October each year as "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." President Harry S. Truman designated the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to carry out the Act. In 1962, the word "physically" was removed from the week's name to acknowledge the employment needs of all Americans with disabilities. Congress expanded the week to a month in 1988 and changed its name to "National Disability Awareness Month," which eventually evolved to its current name. The Labor Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy took over responsibility for National Disability Employment Awareness Month in 2001.

The 2020 theme is **"Increasing Access and Opportunity"**. Celebrating 30 years of the American with Disabilities Act. For more information visit <https://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ndeam/>.

The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and educates about the value of a workforce inclusive of their skills and talents. Held annually, National Disability Employment Awareness Month is led by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, but its true spirit lies in the many observances held at the grassroots level across the nation every year. Employers of all sizes and in all industries are encouraged to participate in NDEAM.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History Month promotes the teaching of LGBT history. First celebrated in 1994, October was selected, as the first and second Marches on Washington for lesbian and gay rights were held in October in 1979 and 1987. For more information visit <http://www.glbthistorymonth.com>.

National Italian American Heritage Month recognizes the achievements of Americans of Italian descent as well as Italians in American. This month was chosen to coincide with Columbus Day. Visit <http://www.italianheritagemonth.com/> or call 617.499.7955 for more information.

German American Heritage Month recognizes the achievements of German-Americans. German-American Day was originally proclaimed by President Regan in 1983. About one in four persons in the United States claims German ancestry. Visit <https://nationaltoday.com/german-american-heritage-month/> for more information.

Polish American Heritage Month celebrates Polish history, culture, and pride of Polish Americans. The first Polish settlers arrived at Jamestown, VA in 1608. Visit www.polishamericancenter.com. or <http://www.polishamericancenter.org/heritmo.htm>.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month - The purple ribbon signifies Domestic Violence Awareness Month. One in four women in Spokane will experience domestic violence at some point during her lifetime. Spokane County has the second highest rate of domestic violence in the State of Washington. In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year the first national toll-free hotline began.

Hispanic Heritage Month - In 1968, Congress first designated the week including September. 15 and 16 as National Hispanic Heritage Week. This week was chosen because of two historical events: Independence Day (September. 15), which celebrated the formal signing of the Act of Independence of Central American in 1821; and Mexico's Independence Day (September. 16), which commemorates the beginning of the struggle against Spanish control in 1810. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a full 31-day period beginning September 15. This year's theme is "Hispanics: Be Proud of Your Past, Embrace the Future". Visit <https://nationalcouncilhepm.org/>.

“Eye Contact” Art - Volunteers of America

The art exhibit focuses on raising awareness about our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness featuring works created by the kids of Crosswalk Youth Shelter, the women of Hope House and the residents of our community supportive housing programs. The pieces will be held at several locations throughout Spokane thanks to the generosity of local businesses including, Aunties Bookstore, Berserk, Boots Barkery, Iron Goat Brewing Company, Merlyn's Science Fiction and Fantasy, Neato Burrito and Washington Trust Bank. Several local artists have donated their talents to create murals outside of the Crosswalk Youth Shelter and the new Hope House shelter located on 2nd avenue.

Viewers of each exhibit location will be encouraged to utilize the accompanying QR code displayed to learn more about the artist as well as Volunteers of America. Individuals who complete the art walk may pick up a free shirt by visiting 525 W. 2nd avenue while supplies last.

This year's event was brought to you by our generous event sponsors, Canopy Credit Union, River Wealth Strategies and the Empire Health Foundation.

Art Hour

Day: Tuesday

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

program includes in-depth interviews with local artists, cultural commentary, and announcements for the creative community and their fans. Hosted by Mike and Eric. On KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Can You Queer Me Now?

Day: Tuesday

Time: 4:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Hear voices directly from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, and Questioning community right here in the Inland Northwest. You will hear more about current events, local groups, and perspectives directly from the queer youth community. Hosted by Ian Sullivan on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Democracy Now

Day: Monday-Friday

Time: 8:00 am – 9:00 am & 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

A national, daily, independent, award-winning news program hosted by journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez. Pioneering the largest public media collaboration in the U.S. Link <https://www.democracynow.org/>. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Democracy Now! Headlines in Spanish

Date: Saturday

Time: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Democracy Now! is a national, daily, independent, award winning news program hosted by journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: www.kyrs.org or www.democracynow.org.

Dragonflies on Thin Air**Day: Sunday**

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

One of the few elementary age children’s radio shows produced by kids for kids in the country. The program is fun and educational for children and adults, and includes a mix of jokes, music, guests, stories, poetry, trivia and more. includes Alice, Elenor C., Lily, Rowan, Sicely, Finn, Eleanor M., Sophia, Aleric and Amara. They all go to Spokane Public Montessori elementary school. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Irish Music on Tap**Day: Wednesday**

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Music from Ireland, Scotland and England as well as Celtic Brittany and Canada. Hosted by Don and Rick, on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Ke Buena.

Spanish language station. Oz 95.7.

Latin Lounge**Day: Monday**

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

A wide spectrum of Latin music. Hosted by “Corazon” on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Layali Arabia**Day: Monday**

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Arabic songs from a multitude of different genres to come out of the Arab World. Hosted by Rachel on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Queens of Noise**Day: Wednesday**

Time: 8:00 pm-10:00 pm

You will hear best in female vocalist/musicians. Hosted by Luscious Duchess, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

QueerSounds**Day: Thursday**

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

QueerSounds is radio show dedicated to playing music by and for LGBTQ people. Music, interviews, community events and forums. KYRS FM 92.3 or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

The Persian Hour**Day: Saturday**

Time: noon – 1:00 pm

The Persian Hour’s consists of a variety of Iranian music from hip hop to traditional, Jazz, blues, rock and roll and the usual. Also, they will share stories, recipes, and interviews. Hosted by Shahrokh, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Raise Your Voice**Day: Friday**

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

A teenage-run music and current events program. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

The Science of Poverty

Day: Saturday

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Explores the topic of poverty. Hosted by Jesse Quintana, official Facebook site. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM.

Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

SOS-Spokane

Day: Thursday

Time: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

The show addresses critical issues facing the Inland Northwest via research, in-depth news, information, analysis, and reasoned opinion. Hosted by Paul Potocky. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Sounds of Science

Day: Sunday

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Lively discussion of what’s happening in the world of science, from how it is affecting our lives to the ways we are shaping it. Hosted by Blake, Amaya and Adam. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>,

Two Brown Ladies and a Microphone

Day: Sunday

Time: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Soul conversations. Life advice. Things that make us think, reflect, cope and ultimately stay the course. Hosted by Duncan & Brown. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Welcome Home

Day: Thursday

Time: 10:00 am – noon

A multi-genre roots based folk show. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Women’s Media Center Live

Day: Wednesday

Time: noon – 1:00 pm

WMC Live with Robin Morgan tackles today’s hottest topics; whether it be sex, politics, art, humor, religion, culture, or news stories that go unreported, each is engaged regularly, insightfully, and intelligently. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Workin’ Woman Blues

Day: Sunday

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Tunes to help you shake the blues out of your hair with a mix of Funk, R&B, Soul and Blues. Hosted by Jukebox Jennie. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Have a library card, check out **Spokane County District Library at (www.sclid.org)**. They have large digital resources including eBooks/audio books with Overdrive/Libby. With Flipster browse, download and read digital magazines and with hoopla stream popular movies, music, audiobooks, eBooks, comics and tv shows along, with many other online services. They offer curb side pickup and yes, you can still request a library card.

If you have a library card to **Spokane Public Library** (<http://www.spokanelibrary.org/>), they also have a large digital Library resources including eBooks/audio books with Overdrive/Libby. Along with hoopla, Kanopy (movies and tv) and RBDigital (magazines) and other online resources. They also offer curbside pickup and yes, you can still request a library card.

Diverse Voices Writing Group Online

Dates: Thursday, October 1 and 8 2020

Time: 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm

Location: Spark Central, 1214 W Summit Parkway

Cost: Free and open to the public, hosted on Zoom

For more information call 509.279.0299 or visit their website at <http://www.sparkwestcentral.org/>

18th Annual Transitions - Respect for Human Dignity – “People Who Care” Fundraiser

Fundraiser for Transitions (programs—Women’s Hearth, Miryam’s House, Transitional Living Center, EduCare, New Leaf Bakery Cafe, and Home Yard Cottages), a non-profit, giving women and their children a second chance.

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020

Time: noon

Location: Digital on-line

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://pwc2020.com/>.

YWCA – Women of Achievement Awards Celebration

Due to COVID-19, YWCA Spokane will honor the achievements of this year’s honorees through a virtual WOA Spotlight event

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Online

Cost: Free

For more information visit

<https://ywcaspokane.org/onemission/?bblinkid=241749303&bbemailid=24048313&bbejid=1629675243>.

YWCA 2020 Women of Achievement Award Honorees – Congratulations!

Karli Ingersoll, Arts and Culture

Nicole Jenkins-Rosenkrantz, Carl Maxey Racial & Social Justice

Jan Swanson, Education

Service

Debbie Brinker, Science, Technology & Environment

Achievement

Latisha Hill, Business & Industry

Bonnie Bush, Community Enhancement

Maria Cullooyah, Government a=& Public

Gabby Dansereau, Young Woman of

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples

Roundtable discussion brings together the nation’s leading experts on the development and implementation of the Declaration and will explore and discuss how it can be further employed to expand Indigenous rights going forward. Moderated by Professor Angela R. Riley

Date: Friday, October 2, 2020

Time: 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm

Location: Inland NW Wildlife Club, 6111 N Market St

To receive Zoom link and to RSVP: Register at <https://ucla.zoom.us/j/781120200001>

Panelists: Kristen Carpenter, Council Tree Professor of Law & Director, American Indian Law Program, University of Colorado Law School; United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

Walter Echohawk, President, Pawnee Business Council, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

Virtual Coffee Talk” “Living in a Time of Fear”

Discussion with panelists Rev. Gen Heywood, Steven A. Smith and Rev. Roger Hudson on how to navigate faith through fear fueled by COVID-19, natural disasters, election season, a questionable economy and more. Visit spokanefavs.com/october-coffee-talk-to-focus-on-living-in-a-time-of-fear to register.

Date: Wednesday, October 3, 2020

Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Location: FaVs Center, 52125 Freya St

Cost: Free

To register for the Zoom link go to <http://spokanefavs.com/october-coffee-talk-to-focus-on-living-in-a-time-of-fear> or call 509.448.1311.

Science from Home

Librarian Molly presents a science experiment each week on the Library’s Facebook page. See what happens when you make Elephant Toothpaste.

Date: Monday, October 5, 2020

Time: 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Location: Spokane County Library District

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8200 or visit <http://www.sclld.org>. View at <https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneCountyLibraryDistrict/>.

Northwest Passages Book Club – The Sound of Spokane written by Jim Kersher

In 1945, a musical “taskmaster” named Harold Paul Whelan arrived in Spokane and willed a symphony orchestra into existence. Others before him had tried and failed. Yet this orchestra evolved into the Spokane Symphony and is now celebrating its 75th birthday.

Date: Monday, October 7, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm, Visit their livestream page at the appointed time!

Location: On-line

Cost: No ticket needed.

For more information visit <https://www.spokesman.com/northwest-passages/events/>

Virtual Spokane Candidate Forums

State Legislative Districts 4 and 6.

Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Streaming via Zoom

Cost: Free, for ticket go to www.eventbrite.com/e/spokane-candidate-forums-tickets-118579932771

For more information visit their Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/835677846970848/>. Sponsored by the Spokane Coalition of Color in partnership with the Black Lens.

‘Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Principal’s Office?’ Humanities Washington

Beginning as early as preschool, Black students are disproportionately suspended and expelled from school. Why are Black students punished more than others in the classroom? Based on extensive research and teaching, Daubi Abe will demonstrate that the racial achievements gap cannot be solved without first addressing the discipline gap. Abe is a professor, writer, and historian.

Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: On-line

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information to join the on-line presentation, visit <https://www.humanities.org/event/online-why-are-all-the-black-kids-sitting-together-in-the-principals-office-2/>.

Science from Home

Librarian Molly presents a science experiment each week on the Library's Facebook page.

Date: Monday, October 12, 2020

Time: 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Location: Spokane County Library District

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8200 or visit <http://www.sclcd.org>.

View at <https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneCountyLibraryDistrict/>.

Space Science for Kids: The Sun

Make a model of the sun, learn about nuclear fusion and how the sun is the source of all energy.

Date: Monday, October 12, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm – 4:pm pm

Location: Spokane Public Library

Cost: Free

For more information visit <http://events.spokanelibrary.org/event/4601396> for a list of supplies needed and to register for the Zoom link at least 24-hours prior to the event.

Hispanic Business / Professional Association Monthly Meeting

Speakers: Alex Gibilisco, Manager of Equity and Inclusion at Spokane City Council

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658332436?pwd=YXU1T2NkWXAzYVU3RERpQzhvVTBsZz09>, Meeting ID: 886 5833 2436, Passcode: 886593, Dial by your location - 1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma))

Cost: Free, open to call

For more information visit their website at www.hbpspokane.net.

EWU Pride Center 10th Anniversary

EWU campus and community members are invited to celebrate 10 years of the Pride Center at EWU. Speakers will highlight the significance and impact of the Pride Center to EWU, how the university has become more inclusive of LGBTQ+ students, and what work lies ahead for staff, faculty, and administrators for continuing to make progress.

Date: Friday, October 16, 2020

Time: noon -1:00 pm

Cost: Free, a recording of the event will be shared with all registrants, so we encourage you to register even if you cannot attend

For more information visit <https://inside.ewu.edu/pridecenter/pride-month-2020/>. To register to attend via Zoom, go to https://ewu.zoom.us/webinar/register/2216014887706/WN_bsgVOECES8Onw218nIGrvQ.

Spokane Pride's Virtual March

Submit 15-30 second videos or photos of you and/or your community expressing pride from home, at work, or on the street. Make use of signs, flags, and/or your best Pride outfit. Speakers, grand marshals and music.

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Virtual on Facebook and YouTube.

Cost: Free

For more information visit www.spokanepride.org.

EWU LGBTQ+Alumni and Community Brunch

EWU's first LGBTQ+ alumni event -- a drag show brunch

Date: Sunday, October 18, 2020

Time: Brunch at 10:00 with drag performances at noon

Location: The Global Bar and Kitchen, 204 N Division Street

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://inside.ewu.edu/pridecenter/pride-month-2020/>. You can attend in person at The Globe (following health and safety protocols) or tune in virtually at <https://globespokane.com/live/>. EWU has collaborated with The Globe Bar and Kitchen and Gonzaga University's LGBTQ+ Resource Center to make this event happen.

Science from Home

Librarian Molly presents a science experiment each week on the Library's Facebook page.

Date: Monday, October 19, 2020

Time: 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Location: Spokane County Library District

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8200 or visit <http://www.sclcd.org>. View at <https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneCountyLibraryDistrict/>.

NAACP Monthly Membership Meeting

Date: Monday, October 19, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Community Building, 35 W Main Ave or community venue, check their Facebook page

Cost: Free, meeting open to everyone

For more information contact spokanenaacp@gmail.com or visit their Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/spokane.naacp/>. Note that this meeting may be virtual, please visit their Facebook for updates.

Humanities Washington: Civil Conversation in an Angry Age

Philosopher David Smith provides participants with the tools needed to have more thoughtful, fruitful discussions about notoriously difficult topics.

Date: Monday, October 19, 2020

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: On-line, visit bit.ly/2ELtnED for more information and to join.

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://www.humanities.org/event/civil-conversation-in-an-angry-age-46/to-join-the-presentation>. Presented by Humanities Washington.

"Who Was Chief Seattle?" Humanities Washington

Chief Seattle wrote nothing down during his life, yet his words, both real and imagined are know around the world. David M. Buerge, biographer and historian to the Dumamish Tribe, Seattle's mother people has spent more than 20 years exploring Chief Seattle.

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Time: 10:30 am

Location: On-line

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit <https://www.humanities.org/event/who-was-chief-seattle-36/>.

4th Annual ‘Eye Contact’ Volunteers of America Fundraiser

A month-long citywide art exhibit, see above for more information about the exhibit. The virtual event will include a live art auction, performances, paddle raise and much more.

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Washington Cracker Company and Terrain Art Space

Cost: Free On-line Virtual Event

To register for the event and view the online art auction please visit <https://event.gives/eyecontact>. Sponsors: Canopy Credit Union, River Wealth Strategies and the Empire Health Foundation. For more information contact Rae-Lynn Barden at 509-710-8944 or email rbarden@voaspokane.org.

Women Who Confound Expectations

Three award-winning women writers, Sharma Shields, Alexandra Teague and Kristen Millares Young share poetry and prose, and discuss writing against patriarchal expectations both overtly and implicitly—within their work and in their writing lives.

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Wishing Tree Books, 1419 E 11th Ave

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.315.9875 or visit

https://wishingtreebookstore.com/?fbclid=IwAR0DoZV4C_h6Nj7Nkidx3g3ocfZnnp2oJNfPpd4c5xjz2sYuzpWdKDm422c.

Science from Home

Librarian Molly presents a science experiment each week on the Library’s Facebook page.

Date: Monday, October 26, 2020

Time: 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Location: Spokane County Library District

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8200 or visit <http://www.sclld.org>. View at

<https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneCountyLibraryDistrict/>.

Northwest Passages: Jess Walter, Local Author

Discussion with Jess Walter about his new book, *The Cold Millions: A Novel*. Jess Walter is the author of six novels, including the bestsellers *Beautiful Ruins* and *The Financial Lives of the Poets*, the National Book Award finalist, *The Zero*, and *Citizen Vince*, the winner of the Edgar Award for best novel.

Date: Monday, October 26, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: On-line

Cost: Need ticket, pre-order the book from Auntie’s to watch the streaming event live.

For more information visit <https://www.spokesman.com/northwest-passages/events/>.

Save the Date

6th Annual Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

This is a Mexican holiday observed throughout Mexico and parts of the U.S. honoring those that have passed. This will be a virtual event broadcast on YouTube Live. Participate by tuning in to watch and/or stopping by our drive-thru altar display!

Date: Sunday, November 1, 2020

Time: noon – 5:00 pm

Location: Hazen & Jaeger Funeral Home, 1306 N Pines Rd

Cost: Free and open to the public.

For more information visit www.hbpaspokane@gmail.com. Sponsored by Hispanic Business/Professional Association (HBPA) and Hazen & Jaeger Funeral Home.

If you know of a diversity/cultural event open to the public that you would like added to the monthly calendar, please e-mail Yvonne C. Montoya Zamora at yvonnecmz04@gmail.com with event details.

For other general events in Spokane, visit www.visitspokane.com or www.spokane7.com/.

October 2020 International/National Cultural Celebrations

October 1 Independence Day – Cyprus, Nigeria
Independence from Britain in 1960.

National Day – China
Commemorates the founding of the People’s Republic of China.

International Day for the Elderly –30th Anniversary
This year has also been recognized as the “Year of the Nurse and Midwife”. International Day of Older Persons 2020 will highlight the role of the health care workforce in contributing to the health of older persons, with special recognition of the nursing profession, and a primary focus on the role of women - who are relatively undervalued and, in most cases, inadequately compensated. For more information, visit <https://www.un.org/en/observances/older-persons-day> .

Harvest Moon Festival -China, Hong Kong, Twain
The festival is celebrated with Family reunions, moon gazing and eating of moon cakes.

Trung Thu (Harvest Moon Festival) – Vietnam
Children form a procession and travel through the streets with bright lanterns, signing and dancing to the beat of drums.

Chuseok (Harvest Moon Festival) – Korea
Referred to as the Korean Thanksgiving Days. It’s a celebration of the harvest and thanksgiving for the bounty of the earth. Observed by paying homage to ancestors and expressing gratitude for rich crops.

Pavarana – Buddhist
Buddha went into intensive practice during the rainy season. This marks the end of the retreat.

- October 2** **Gandhi's Birthday– India**
 Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (1869-1948) is the National Father of India who adopted “non-violence” in fighting for freedom of the country, and is honored as a leader of Indian nationalism and Hindu religious beliefs.
- International Day of Non-Violence - UN**
 Urges the world to follow Gandhi's example of non-violence.
- Mehragan – Iran, Zoroastrian**
 The word “Mehr” in Persian means kindness, love and friendship. It was based on the concept that all farmers would take their harvest to the middle of the town square and share it evenly.
- Kathina – Buddhist**
 New robes and necessities given to ordained monks and nuns.
- October 3** **National Foundation Day (Gaecheonjeol) – Korea**
 Celebrates the central foundation myth of the ancient Korean kingdom of Gojoseon. The national holiday and the historical myth upon which it is based have long been an integral part of the Korean national identity.
- Day of German Unity – Germany**
- Oct. 3-9** **Sukkot - Jewish**
 Begins previous sundown at 6pm. The feast of Booths is a joyful harvest festival lasting 9 days. A little hut called “sukkah” is built outdoors where families eat to remember the time Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years, sleeping and eating under the stars.
- October 4** **Feast of St. Francis of Assisi – Italy**
 St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, was born in 1182 at Assisi. He abandoned his dream of knighthood, donned the clothes of a poor farmhand and began caring for the sick. He founded the Franciscan Order. In remembrance of his love of animals, blessings of animals often take place on this date.
- October 5** **Republic Day – Portugal**
 Commemorates the overthrow of the monarchy and establishment of a republic in 1910.
- World Teachers Day – UN**
 2019 theme “Young Teachers: The future of the Profession.”
- World Habitat Day – UN**
 2019 theme “Greening the Blue”
- October 6** **Armed Forces Day – Egypt**
 Commemorates the day in 1973 when combined Egyptian and Syrian military forces launched a surprise attack on Israel and crossed into the Sinai Peninsula, which marked the beginning of the October (Yom Kippur).
- October 8** **Independence Day – Croatia**
 Commemorates the nation's official independence from the other Yugoslav republics.
- Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity - Argentina**

- October 8** **Taiiku no hi – Japan**
 Known as Health Sports Day or Sports Day is a national holiday in Japan on the second Monday in October. It commemorates the opening of the 1964 Summer Olympics held in Tokyo, and exists to promote sports and an active lifestyle.
- Arba’een Shia – Iran, Islam, Iraq**
 Arba’een is a Shia Muslim religious observance of the end of a forty-day period of mourning to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Husain.
- October 9** **Independence Day – Uganda**
 Celebrates independence from British rule in 1962.
- World Post Day – UN**
 The anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern.
- Han-Gul Day – South Korea**
 This day commemorates the creation of the Korean alphabet 29-phonetic symbols called han gul, between 1443 and 1446 under the direction of King Sejong of the Yi dynasty.
- October 10** **Curacao Day – Curacao**
 Commemorates the original discovery of the island by Spanish explorer Alonso de Ojeda in 1499. After World War II, became the “capital island” of the five-island group called the Netherlands Antilles – which was a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands until the Netherlands Antilles was dissolved in 2010.
- Independence Day – Cuba**
 Commemorates the beginning of Cuba's struggle in 1868 to free itself from Spanish colonial power.
- World Mental Health Day - UN**
 The goal is to help raise mental health awareness which affects millions of lives.
- Double Tenth Day - Taiwan**
 Commemorates the start of the Wuchang Uprising of 10 October 1911 (10-10 or double ten), which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty and establishment of the Republic of China on January 1, 1912.
- Fiji Day – Fiji**
- Shemini Atzert - Jewish**
 On the eight day of Sukkot, special prayers for rain are offered.
- October 11** **National Coming Out Day – LGBT**
 The first National Coming Out Day was held on October 11, 1988. It is an international event which gives gay, lesbian and bisexual people the opportunity to “come out” to others about their sexuality. It also provides a means of increasing the visibility of LGBT people.
- International Day of the Girl - UN**
 2020 theme - “My Voice, Our Equal Future”

- October 11** **Simchat Torah – Jewish**
- October 12** **Dia de la Raza (Day of the Race) - Mexico**
Celebrates the Hispanic and Latino heritage in the Americas.
- Nossa Senhora De Aparecida (Our Lady of the Conception) – Brazil**
In 1717, a group of Brazilian fishermen pulled up a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary, which was followed by an abundant catch after a fruitless fishing day. They enshrined the statue and in 1929 Brazil named Nossa Senhora De Aparecida the Patroness of Brazil. On October 12, 1980, Pope John Paul II on a visit to Brazil consecrated the Basilica of Aparecida do Norte.
- National Day (also known as Hispanic Day) – Spain**
Commemorates the date Christopher Columbus sailed for the Americas.
- Indigenous Peoples Day – USA**
- Indigenous Day - Spokane City**
The Spokane City Council voted 6-1 on August 29, 2016, to pass an ordinance changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day.
- Thanksgiving Day – Canada**
Early Canadian settlers gave thanks for good harvests by decorating their churches with fruits and vegetables and celebrated dinner with venison and waterfowl.
- Discovery Day - Bahamas**
- Oct 12-16** **Gahambar Ayathrem - Zoroastrian**
Celebrates the creation of plant life.
- October 14** **International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction - UN**
Promotes a global culture of disaster reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness
- National Boss Day – USA and Canada**
A day dedicated to appreciating our supervisors at work.
- 'Ilm' – Bahá'í**
The first day of the twelfth Bahai month. The English translation of 'Ilm is knowledge.
- October 15** **National Heroes Day - Jamaica**
- October 16** **World Food Day –UN**
Celebrates the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945.
- October 17** **Navratri – Hindu**
Means 'nine nights' beginning on the new moon and ending on Dussehra. Dedicated to the goddess Durga who had nine incarnations and the power of good to destroy demons.
- International Day for Eradication of Poverty - UN**
To promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries.

- October 18** **Independence Day – Azerbaijan**
Independence from the Soviet Union when it ceased to exist in 1991.
- Birthdays of The Báb – Bahá'í**
Born Siyyid 'Ali Muhammed in Southwestern Iran in 1819. His title, in Arabic, means 'The Gate'.
Work is suspended and Bahá'ís come together for prayer and festivities.
- October 19** **Birthdays of Baha'u'llah – Bahá'í**
Born Mirza Husayn 'Ali into one of the leading noble families of Persia in 1817. His name is a title, in Arabic, meaning 'The Glory of God'.
- October 22** **Abu Simbel Festival – Egypt**
Built by Ramses II, his temple is angled so that the inner sanctum lights up twice a year on the anniversary of his rise to the throne and once again on his birthday. Crowds pack the temple before sunrise to watch the shafts of light illuminate the statues of Ramses, Ra and Amon.
- October 23** **Chulalongkorn Day – Thailand**
Commemorates the birth of Rama V, a progressive ruler who lived in 1868-1910.. Abolishing slavery in 1905 is considered to be his more important royal contribution during his reign.
- Durga Puja – Hindu**
This day celebrates the divine creative force of the universe and honors the 10-armed goddess Durga, wife of Shiva, and the destroyer of demons.
- October 24** **United Nations Day – UN**
A day to commemorate the founding of the United Nations in 1945 and the effective date of the UN Charter.
- Suez Victory Day – Egypt**
- World Development Information Day - UN**
- October 25** **Republic Day – Kazakhstan**
- Chung Yeung Festival – China, Hong Kong, Taiwan**
Families visit the graves of their ancestors. This tradition is over 2000 years old
- Dussehra - Hindu**
Dussehra means 'the tenth' and celebrates the triumph of Lord Ram over the demon Ravan who stole his wife Sita. The great Hindu epi poem, The Ramayana, is read and enacted, called Ram Lila. A big effigy of Ravan is burnt accompanied by fireworks.
- October 26** **National Day – Austria**
The Austrian Parliament passed the constitutional law on permanent neutrality, which has been celebrated as the Austrian National day since 1965.
- October 27** **Labour Day – New Zealand**
- October 28** **National Day – Czech Republic**
Independence Day and Creation of Czechoslovakia in 1918.

- October 28 National Day “Ochi” - Greece**
 Marks the anniversary of when the Prime Minister Metaxas said “no” (or “ochi” in Greek) to the invasion of Albania by the Italians, thereby entering Greece into the war.
- October 29 Republic Day – Turkey**
 Commemorates the Republic of Turkey in 1923.
- Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi - Islam**
 Anniversary of the birth of Prophet Muhammad. Some Muslims mark this occasion by special prayers, whilst other Muslims may mark the occasion by dedicating more time to read the Koran.
- October 31 Halloween – USA, Canada**
 This tradition dates back to the Celtic people 2000 years ago, who celebrated their New Year in late autumn and honored Samhain or Lord of the Dead. They put candles on windows and lit bonfires to scare off the disembodied spirits. They wore disguises so as not to be recognized and always carried a lantern. The Irish traditionally carved lanterns out of turnips or potatoes, but in North America they used pumpkins, which were more readily available.
- Samhain – Wicca**
 This ancient harvest festival, one of the “Greater Sabbats,” honors Saman, an ancient lord of the dead. According to folklore, on this day the souls of all those who had died the previous year gathered. Samhain, or summer’s end, is also celebrated as New Year’s Eve.
- Reformation Day - Chile**

Source: With permission from Creative Cultural Communications, Multicultural Calendar 2020:
<http://usa.multiculturalcalendar.com/v/home.html>.

The following is a list of books written by Hispanic/Latinx authors or Latinx non-fiction in no particular order in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month:

Finding Latinx by Paula Ramos. Activist Paola Ramos embarks on a journey to find communities of people defining the controversial term “Latinx”. Ramos chronicles how ‘Latinx’ has given rise to sense of collectivity and solidarity among Latinos unseen in this country for decades.

Once I was You by Maria Hinojosa. Memoir, as she relates the history of US immigration policy that has brought us to where we are today, she shares her deeply personal story

Where We Come From by Oscar Casás. Twelve-year-old Orly, is being forced to stay the summer with his godmother Nina in Brownsville after his mother’s sudden death. Nina, however, has a secret: she’s providing refuge for a young immigrant boy named Daniel, for whom traveling to America has meant trading one set of dangers for another. Separated from the violent human traffickers who brought him across the border and pursued by the authorities, Daniel must stay completely hidden. Orly’s arrival threatens to put them all at risk of exposure.

Mexican Gothic by Silvia Moreno-Garcia. Step into an isolated mansion in 1950s Mexico with Noemí who arrives to save her cousin after receiving a frantic letter. This brave and glamorous socialite-turned-detective takes us on her journey to uncover the treacherous secrets that live between the walls, without knowing exactly who to trust.

Mexican White Boy by Matt de la Peña Danny is half-Mexican brown. Growing up in San Diego close to the border means everyone else knows exactly who he is before he even opens his mouth. Before they find out he can't speak Spanish, and before they realize his mom has blond hair and blue eyes, they've got him pegged. Danny's convinced it's his whiteness that sent his father back to Mexico, that's why he's spending the summer with his dad's family. But to find himself, he may just have to face the demons he refuses to see—the demons that are right in front of his face. And open up to a friendship he never saw coming.

Efrain's Secret by Sofia Quintero. Ambitious high school senior Efrain Rodriguez dreams of escaping the South Bronx for an Ivy League college like Harvard or Yale. But how is his family going to afford to pay for a prestigious university when Mom has to work insane hours to put food on the table as it is? Left with few options, Efrain chooses to do something he never thought he would. He embarks on a double life—honor student by day, drug peddler at night—convinced that by temporarily capitulating to society's negative expectations of a boy like him, he can eventually defy them.

Tell Me How It Ends An Essay in Forth Questions by Valeria Luiselli. *Structured around the forty questions that Luiselli asks undocumented Latin-American children facing deportation, Tell Me How It Ends* humanizes these young migrants. The book highlights the contradiction of the idea of America as a fiction for immigrants with the reality of racism and fear both here and back home. One of 15 books by diverse voices for 2020 Spokane Reading.

They Both Die At The End by Adam Silvera might just make you cry, and although the title "spoils" the end, this YA about two strangers who become friends and have one last adventure for a single day will surprise you.

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros is told in series of vignettes, detailing the coming-of-age story of a Latina young woman in Chicago. If you didn't read this in school, now is the time.

I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika Sanchez explores family in the aftermath of tragedy, obligations and duty in an immigrant home, and the challenges of living up to others' expectations.

. **Leonora** by Elena Poniatowska details the life of British-born Mexican surrealist painter Leonora Carrington as she breaks free from her wealthy life in England, mingles with other artists of her time in Paris, and eventually escapes to Mexico to work on her art

Gabi, a Girl in Pieces by Isabel Quintero chronicles the titular character's last year of high school, through college applications, her best friend's pregnancy, her father's struggles with meth addiction, and her own love life and identity as a Mexican-American — all in a humorous and honest diary format.

Chronicle of a Death Foretold by Gabriel García Márquez is a murder mystery — but with a twist. Everyone knew the murder was going to happen: after a bride is returned to her family in "disgrace," her previous lover is named, and her twin brothers declare their intent to kill that man. 27 years later, the protagonist returns to the town, determined to get to the bottom of the story.

In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez is told through the eyes of the four Mirabal sisters, three of whom are found dead in an "accidental" car wreck, after years of resistance against the Trujillo dictatorship under the code name "Las Mariposas." This moving novel tells their story.

The Book of Unknown Americans by Cristina Henríquez centers on a Mexican family who moves to the US after their daughter goes through a brain injury. The story takes place in an apartment building in Delaware filled with families from various Central and Latin American countries, exploring themes like the bonds between families, guilt, and love.

Butterfly Boy by Rigoberto González is a coming out and coming-of-age memoir that won the American Book Award, detailing the author's experience growing up among migrant Mexican farmworkers, navigating a complicated relationship with his father, losing his mother at a young age, and facing pressure as a gay man.

Rain of Gold (or *LLuvia De Oro* in Spanish) by Victor Villaseñor tells the true story of the author's parents, how they met and fell in love, their roots in Mexico, and how much they overcame after coming to California.

Gods of Jade and Shadow by Silvia Moreno-Garcia is a modern fairy tale, inspired by Mexican folklore and set in the Jazz Age, following a woman who accidentally unleashes the Mayan god of death and embarks on an adventure that takes her across Mexico.

When I was Puerto Rican by Esmeralda Sandiago follows the author's childhood in Puerto Rico, moving to Brooklyn with her mother and six siblings, and eventually to Harvard.

Like Water for Chocolate by Laura Esquivel is a classic love story (perhaps you've seen the movie!) about a young woman who expresses herself through cooking at the turn of the century. It's full of magical realism, too!

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz follows two 15-year-old boys (the titular Aristotle and Dante) with nothing in common as they explore their identities, their relationship, and who they want to be.

Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo (an award-winning slam poet) is a novel in verse, about an Afro-Latina teen girl as she comes of age and navigates others' expectations and discovers her voice.

The House of Broken Angels by Luis Alberto Urrea is set in the final days before the death of a family's patriarch, who brings everyone together for one last birthday party. When his mother unexpectedly dies, the family celebrates both lives, recounting family stories that are just about legendary.

Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan centers on the title protagonist as she unexpectedly moves from a privileged life on her family's ranch in Mexico to a Mexican farm labor camp in California after a sudden tragedy befalls her and her mother — and she has to survive for the both of them.

Next Year in Havana by Chanel Cleeton takes place in two different timelines: 1958 Havana and 2017 Miami, revealing a sweeping love story that's just as much about family, as a granddaughter seeks to find out more about her grandmother's life growing up in Cuba before fleeing during the revolution.

In The Country We Love: My Family Divided by Diane Guerrero recounts her own personal story after her parents were detained and deported when Guerrero was at school at the age of 14, how she was able to stay in the US to continue her education, and how she ended up building her acting career.

Caramba by Nina Marie Martinez is a whimsical read inspired by the game Lotería, taking you on a whirlwind ride with two friends, Natalie and Consuelo as they take a road trip to Mexico to get Consuelo's father out of Purgatory.

Her Body and Other Parties by Carmen Maria Machado is a collection of short stories that blends together genres like comedy, horror, science fiction, and fantasy. Even when one story ends, you won't be able to put it down.

The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child by Francisco Jiménez is a collection of 12 autobiographical stories, starting with how Jiménez crossed the border in 1947 (at the age of four) along with his family, and then following their lives with gripping realism and a sense of endurance.

Paula by Isabel Allende is an autobiography and family history told in a unique and moving way: it's written by Allende for her daughter, who is in a coma.

Daughter of Fortune by Isabel Allende centers on a young Chilean woman, orphaned at birth, who falls in love with a young man and, after he heads to California hoping to strike gold, follows him.

Lost Children Archive by Valeria Luiselli as thousands of families are being separated and detained at the US–Mexico border, another family takes a cross-country trip from New York to Arizona. In search of Apacheria, the stolen home of the Apaches, they listen to the news about the “immigration crisis” along the way.

The Affairs of the Falcóns by Melissa Rivero tells the story of when Ana Falcón fled Peru for New York with her husband and two young children in the 1990s, she was only looking to escape economic and political hardship, to give her family a chance — now, she is struggling to keep them afloat. Up against inhumane working conditions, an intimidating loan shark, and a cousin who might throw them out of her home at any moment, Ana is forced to consider just how much she’s willing to sacrifice.

Dominicana by Angie Cruz. The first time Juan Ruiz proposes, “I’m eleven years old, skinny and flat-chested,” Ana Canción, the narrator of Cruz’s third novel, informs us on the first page. It’s a harbinger of things to come for Ana, who marries Juan four years later in a business deal arranged by her parents. Whisked away from the Dominican Republic to New York City in the late ’60s, Ana must reckon with her own loneliness, her drunken cheating husband, and her homesickness.

Táina by Ernesto Quiñonez with a premise that could be straight out of a telenovela, 15-year-old Táina is pregnant but insists she’s a virgin. 17-year-old Julio, who lives in the same housing project as Táina and is desperately in love with her, embarks on a foolhardy mission to help Táina out and his plans involves a sketchy uncle, a dose of magic, and just a few ethically dubious decisions.

Ordinary Girls by Jaquira Díaz with this debut memoir from Puerto Rican writer Díaz is an unflinching, queer coming-of-age story. Shuttling between Puerto Rico and Miami Beach, Díaz spares no punches writing about her tough upbringing, grappling with her queerness and a difficult family life.

The Book of Lost Saints by Daniel José Older. Focuses on a multigenerational Cuban family grappling with the aftereffects of the Cuban Revolution. Narrated by Marisol, who was killed during the war and haunts her nephew Ramon living in New Jersey in 2004, hoping that he will dig up the truth about her disappearance. Weaving back and forth in time, the novel is a slippery ode to complicated families, inspired in part by Older’s own.

Cantoras by Carolina de Robertis. It’s 1977 in Uruguay, and the country is under a military dictatorship. Groups of five or more people can’t gather in private spaces without a permit; while homosexuality isn’t outlawed outright, it doesn’t need to be — being openly gay is an automatic prison sentence. Under these dire straits, five women — ringleader Flaca, activist Romina, housewife Anita, the mysterious Malena, and the teenage Paz — go on an excursion to an isolated beach where they can just be themselves — “cantoras,” or women who sing, a code name for lesbians. Over the course of 35 years, De Robertis charts the fortunes of these women as they fall in and out of love and navigate the country’s tumultuous politics.

The Mutations by Jorge Comensal (translated by Charlotte Whittle) tells of when lawyer Ramón Martínez discovers he has oral cancer and that the only way to treat it is to get his tongue surgically removed, it sets into motion a series of catastrophic events for his middle-class family.

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents by Julia Álvarez is a coming-of-age story about four sisters from the Dominican Republic in New York City.

Drown by Junot Díaz is a collection of short stories is a familiar promenade through South Jersey and DR, unrequited love and unencumbered machismo.

Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya tells the story of a young New Mexican boy growing up in rural 1940's community in New Mexico. It's a coming-of-age story told in the context of Mexican-American culture.

Always Running: La Vida Loca by Luis J. Rodriguez is the autobiography of Luis J. Rodriguez, a Chicano kid who grew up in the gang life in the streets of East L.A.

The Boy Kings of Texas by Domingo Martinez is Martinez's memoir about growing up in the border town of Brownsville, Texas, just across from Matamoros, Mexico, provides incredible insights into how difficult it is for a young man to shake the dominance of machismo that afflicts his psyche, household, and neighborhood. Martinez must take charge and become the protagonist of his story in order to accept his contrasting path toward masculinity.

The City of Palace by Michael Nava is an engaging historical novel looks closely at the period before and during the Mexican Revolution that fueled an unprecedented exodus to the U.S. Nava, known for his Henry Ríos murder mysteries, shifts direction with this tale of the Mexican Revolution that highlights a family caught in the midst of a dramatic period of cultural and social change.

The Deportation of Wopper Barraza by Maceo Montoya humorous yet moving critique of the United States' deportation policies avoids easy depictions of good and bad. The book features a decidedly complicated anti-hero whose journey sheds light on the lives of those who are affected when a person disappears from either side of the border.

Ditch Water by Joseph Delgado is a stunning and original vision of a small town in Arizona where the working-class Mexican and Native American peoples and traditions coexist even when their existence is at odds with mainstream America, or with each other. But the true unifying culture is the desert landscape through which its inhabitants strive for survival on the weather's brutal terms.

Undocumented by Dan-el Padilla Peralta. Peralta's journey from a New York City homeless shelter to the top of his Princeton class. *Undocumented* is essential reading for the debate on immigration, but it is also an unforgettable tale of a passionate young scholar coming of age in two very different worlds.

Sanctuary by Paola Mendoza and Abby Sher is in a near future dystopian where a young girl and her brother must escape a xenophobic government to find sanctuary. It's 2032, and in this near-future America, all citizens are chipped and everyone is tracked—from buses to grocery stores. It's almost impossible to survive as an undocumented immigrant, but that's exactly what sixteen-year-old Vali is doing. She and her family have carved out a stable, happy life in small-town Vermont, but when Vali's mother's counterfeit chip starts malfunctioning and the Deportation Forces raid their town, they are forced to flee.

Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marques. In their youth, Florentino Ariza and Fermina Daza fall passionately in love. When Fermina eventually chooses to marry a wealthy, well-born doctor, Florentino is devastated, but he is a romantic. As he rises in his business career, he whiles away the years in 622 affairs—yet he reserves his heart for Fermina. Her husband dies at last, and Florentino purposefully attends the funeral. Fifty years, nine months, and four days after he first declared his love for Fermina, he will do so again.

The Black Jersey by Jorge Zepeda Patterson Marc Moreau, a professional cyclist with a military past, is part of a top Tour de France team led by his best friend, an American star favored to win this year's Tour. But the competition takes a dark turn when racers begin to drop out in a series of violent accidents. Marc begins to have the sickening realization that *his own team* has been most favored by the murderer's actions, and in the final stages of the race Mark himself emerges as the only cyclist left who could possibly beat his best friend and win the Tour. Whom can Marc trust? Whom should he protect?

Suncatcher by Jose Pimienta. If life wasn't already hard enough for Beatriz — being a teenager, trying to start a band, and going to school — she discovers that her grandfather's soul has been trapped in an old guitar, and that the only way to free him is to play the perfect song. She soon finds herself growing obsessed with his song at the expense of her friendships, her band, and her health.

The Grief Keeper by Alexandra Villasante. Seventeen-year-old Marisol has always dreamed of being American. She never pictured fleeing her home in El Salvador under threat of death and stealing across the US border as “an illegal”, but after her brother is murdered and her younger sister, Gabi's, life is also placed in equal jeopardy, she has no choice. With truly no options remaining, Marisol jumps at an unusual opportunity to stay in the United States. She's asked to become a grief keeper, taking the grief of another into her own body to save a life. It's a risky, experimental study, but if it means Marisol can keep her sister safe, she will risk anything.

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