

DEIJA COMMEMORATIONS CALENDAR APRIL 2025

National Arab American Heritage Month recognizes and celebrates the achievements, heritage and culture of Arab Americans.

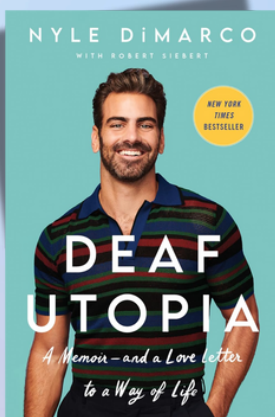
Autism Acceptance Month

Since 2011, the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network (ASAN) has designated April as “Autism Acceptance Month.” ASAN emphasizes the importance of accepting autism as a natural part of the human experience to foster meaningful dialogue.

Genocide Awareness Month is a time to honor all the victims and survivors of past atrocity and to raise awareness about all genocides, including those being perpetrated today.

National Fair Housing Month The Fair Housing Act (FHA) prohibits housing providers from discriminating against people on the basis of many factors, including disability. The Fair Housing Act was signed on April 11, 1968, to protect vulnerable populations from housing discrimination.

Deaf History Month recognizes the accomplishments and contributions of people who are d/Deaf and hard of hearing.



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

In honor of Deaf History Month, read Deaf Utopia by Nyle DiMarco.



**DAY OR WEEK LONG
RECOGNITIONS**

April 4 (or 11)

The Day of Silence is observed annually to protest the harmful effects of harassment and discrimination of LGBTQ+ people, particularly in schools. Also called Day of NO Silence.

April 6

Rama Navami is a Hindu festival that celebrates the incarnation of Lord Vishnu in the form of Lord Ramachandra.

April 10

Mahavir Jayanti celebrates the birthday of Lord Mahavira, the great Tirthankara of Jainism.

April 12

Fishing Moon is one of 13 thanksgiving celebrations recognized by many Native American communities.

April 12-20

Passover (Pesach) is a major Jewish festival that celebrates the emancipation of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery.

April 13

Theravada New Year (Songkran) is celebrated for three days following the first full moon in April and is a time when Theravada Buddhists reflect on the past year, make resolutions for the coming one, and perform special ceremonies.

April 13

Palm Sunday is a Christian holiday held the Sunday before Easter which celebrates Jesus's entry into Jerusalem.

April 14

Vaisakhi (Baisakhi) has been historically a harvest festival in the Punjab region of India, and has become an important celebration for Sikh's in recognition of 1699, the year that Sikhism was born as a collective faith.

April 15

National ASL Day commemorates the date in 1817 when the first lasting school for the deaf in the U.S. was founded and different sign languages together (French Sign Language, Native American Sign Language and Martha's Vineyard Sign Language for example) influenced the development of American Sign Language (ASL).

April 16

Emancipation Proclamation was signed. President Lincoln proclaimed that enslaved people in those states or parts of states still in rebellion as of January 1, 1863, would be declared free.

April 18

Good Friday is a Christian observance commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus.

April 20

Easter is a Christian holiday that celebrates the resurrection of Jesus. Easter, along with Christmas, is considered to be one of the most important Christian holidays. Secular celebrations of Easter include symbols of Spring such as Easter eggs.

April 20

Paschais a holy day for Orthodox Christians commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

April 20-May 2

The Festival of Ridván is celebrated by Baha’l communities in honor of the 12 days that Baha’u’llah spent on the banks of the Tigris River in Baghdad in 1863, during which He declared His mission as God’s Messenger for a new age and revealed the spiritual principles that are the foundation of His teachings.

April 21-27

Lesbian Visibility Week aims to show solidarity with all LGBTQIA women and non-binary people in the community, as well as celebrate lesbians.

April 22

Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970 and is now recognized by 192 countries, in an effort to safeguard our planet. The theme for 2025 is “Our Power, Our Planet.”

April 23-24

Yom HaShoah (Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day) marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

April 24

Armenian Martyrs’ Day (Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day) is held annually to honor the victims of the Armenian genocide of 1915-1923.