

DEIJA COMMEMORATIONS CALENDAR MAY 2025

Asian American, Native Hawaiʻian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is a celebration of the histories of Americans hailing from across the Asian continent, Native Hawaii and the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia.

Haitian Heritage Month is a celebration in the U.S. of Haitian heritage and culture. May was selected due to events of historical and cultural significance that occurred that month.

Jewish American Heritage Month is a celebration of the contributions and experiences of Jewish Americans and highlights how America's Jewish communities have shaped and been shaped by the cultural, social, and economic fabric of the United States.

Mental Health Awareness Month is a dedicated time to raise awareness, fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support the millions of people in the U.S. affected by mental illness.

Older Americans Month pays tribute to older adults in our communities. The 2025 theme is Flip the Script on Aging, which focuses on transforming how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging. It encourages individuals and communities to challenge stereotypes and dispel misconceptions.

May 1

Beltane (May Day) is a festival associated with purification and fertility in the Pagan and Wiccan religions. It represents the peak of Spring and the beginning of Summer.

May 5

Cinco de Mayo celebrates the Mexican victory over the French at the Battle of Puebla.

May 11

Mother's Day became a holiday in the U.S. following the efforts of Anna Jarvis in the early 1900s as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers have made for their children. Jarvis later denounced the holiday due to the commercialism that surrounded it.

May 12

Corn Planting/Flower Moon is one of 13 thanksgiving celebrations recognized by many Native American communities.

May 12

Buddha Day (Vesak; Vesākha Pūjā) marks the birth, enlightenment, and death of the historical Buddha, Siddharta Gautama.

May 16

Lag BaOmer is a Jewish holiday which marks the passing of Rabbi Shimon (the first to publicly teach the mystical dimension of the Torah known as the Kabbalah). It also marks a time between Passover and Shavuot when there was a ceasing of death caused by plague.

May 17

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia is a global initiative that aims to raise awareness about discrimination, violence, and challenges faced by the LGBTQIA+ community.

May 19

Malcolm X Day honors the life and legacy of the civil rights leader and minister and spokesperson for the Nation of Islam.

May 21

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development highlights the richness of world cultures and the essential role of intercultural dialogue for achieving peace and sustainable development.

May 22

Harvey Milk Day recognizes the life and legacy of gay activist, organizer, and one of America's first openly gay elected official.

May 23

Disability Reproductive Equity Day is a day dedicated to promoting the bodily autonomy and dignity of disabled people.

May 23

Declaration of the Báb is a holiday celebrated by Baha'i's commemorating when the Báb announced that he was the new messenger of God.

May 24

Pansexual and Panromantic Visibility Day brings awareness to and celebration of these identities.

May 25

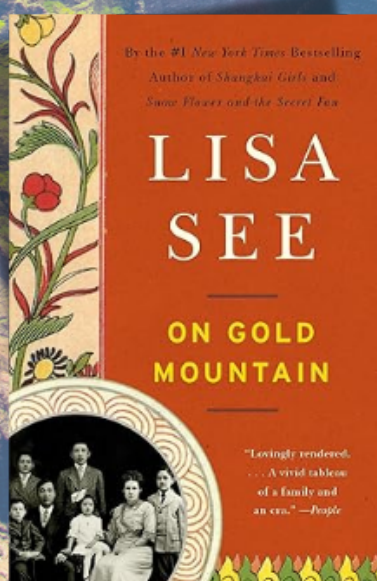
George Floyd Remembrance Day is a time to honor him and every person whose life has been cut short due to systems of racism and discrimination.

May 26

Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America.

May 28

The Ascension of Baha'u'llah marks the passing of the prophet-founder of the Baha'i faith.



Book Recommendation

In honor of AAPI Heritage Month,
read *On Gold Mountain* by Lisa See