

DEIJA COMMEMORATIONS CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2025

Global Diversity Awareness Month celebrates the values, contributions, and diversity of cultures and communities around the world.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the contributions of America's workers with disabilities past and present and showcases supportive, inclusive policies and practices that benefit employees and employers alike. This year marks the 80th anniversary of NDEAM, and the theme is Celebrating Value and Talent.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month aims to promote screening and prevention of the disease, which affects people of all genders.

LGBTQ History Month is a month-long observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements.

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Filipino American History Month celebrates the significant role that Filipinos have played in American history. October was selected as it commemorates the arrival of the first Filipinos who landed in what is now Morro Bay, California on October 18, 1587.

German American Heritage Month honors the contributions of Americans with German heritage. (October 6, official day - On this day, German Americans settled in Pennsylvania)

Italian American Heritage Month honors the achievements and contributions of Italian immigrants and their descendants living in the United States, particularly in the arts, science, and culture.

National Polish American Heritage Month is a national celebration of Polish history, culture, and pride.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month unites advocates across the country in their efforts to end domestic violence.

October 1-2

Yom Kippur (Day of the Atonement) is the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, marked by fasting, prayer and seeking forgiveness. It is the peak of the High Holidays.

October 2

Dussehra (or Vijayadashami) is a major Hindu festival celebrated every year at the end of Navaratri. Dussehra is a time for Hindus to celebrate their faith, and to renew their commitment to living a life of good and virtue. It commemorates the victory of good over evil.

October 6

Cranberry/Falling Leaves Moon is one of 13 thanksgiving celebrations recognized by many Native American communities.

October 6-13

Beginning five days after Yom Kippur, **Sukkot** is named after the booths or huts (sukkot in Hebrew) in which Jews are supposed to dwell during this week-long celebration. Sukkot celebrates the gathering of the harvest and commemorates the miraculous protection G-d provided for the children of Israel when they left Egypt.

October 10

World Mental Health Day is a day that advocates for mental health awareness and education. On this day, you can support the efforts by reflecting on your own biases regarding mental health and advocating against social stigma related to it

October 11

National Coming Out Day is a day of celebration and hope for those in the LGBTQIA+ community, who are coming out to the world and expressing their true authentic selves.

October 13

Indigenous People's Day honors the histories, cultures, and perspectives of Indigenous peoples and their ancestors who lived on the land now known as North America. They existed in these areas for thousands of years before the first Europeans arrived.

October 16

International Pronouns Day seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns commonplace.

October 16

Spirit Day is aimed specifically at LGBTQ+ youth and what their community can do to support them. You can participate in this day by wearing purple and speaking out against bullying.

October 20

Diwali is a festival celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains. Diwali is derived from Sanskrit word Deepavali meaning 'Line of Lamps'. It is one of the most important festivals in India, marking a new year, and often compared to Christmas in the West.

October 22

Gujarati New Year is celebrated following Diwali, on the first day of the Karthik month.

October 22-23

The Twin Holy Birthdays celebrate the births of two central figures in the Bahá'í faith: the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh.

October 31-November 1

Samhain is a Pagan and Wiccan festival marking the end of the harvest season. During this time, it is believed that the barrier between the living world and the beyond is at its thinnest, allowing for connections between the two worlds.

October 31

Halloween is a holiday rooted in the Celtic and Pagan tradition of Samhain. Activities such as carving Jack-o-Lanterns, donning costumes, trick-or-treating, and enjoying spooky stories are associated with modern day celebrations of Halloween in the U.S.

