



# DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

## Monthly SnapShot

January 2023

## Appreciating Our Differences

As we welcome and appreciate our differences and uniqueness, history of dates help us to knowledge those moments throughout the month and years to come!

**"I HAVE A DREAM  
THAT ONE DAY  
THIS NATION WILL RISE UP  
AND LIVE OUT  
THE TRUE MEANING  
OF IT'S CREED -  
WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS  
TO BE SELF-EVIDENT:  
THAT ALL MEN  
ARE CREATED EQUAL."**

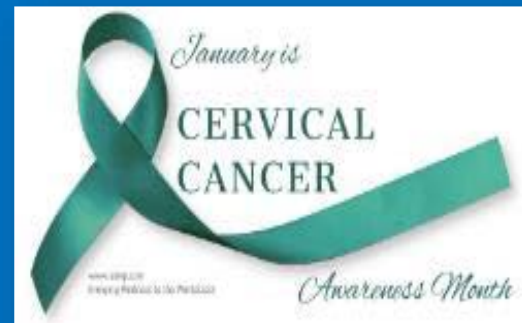
*Martin Luther King Jr.*



**January 16<sup>th</sup>** Celebrated the third Monday of each January, Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a federal holiday marking the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. Born January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1929, King was a prominent civil rights activist for African Americans using nonviolence and civil disobedience. King participated in and led marches for the right to vote, desegregation, labor rights, and other civil rights. King was one of the leaders of the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. The Civil Rights Movement led to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other legislation. King was assassinated on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1968. Signed into law by Ronald Reagan in 1983, the first observation of the holiday took place in 1986.

Historical dates and celebrations recognized in the U.S. that have shaped or fostered a culture of inclusion within our country.

Jan 1	New Year's Day
Jan 1	Shogatsu (Japan)
Jan 1	Feast of St. Basil
Jan 2	World Introvert Day
Jan 2	World Braille Day
Jan 6	Feast of the Epiphany
Jan 7	Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
Jan 15	Makar Sankranti (Hindu)
Jan 16	Martin Luther King Jr Day
Jan 22	Lunar New Year (China)
Jan 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day





**January 1<sup>st</sup>** Shogatsu is the Japanese New Year annual festival. Prior to conversion to the Gregorian calendar in 1873, Shogatsu was celebrated on the first day of the lunisolar calendar. Japanese eat a selection of dishes during the celebration called *osechi-ryori*, based on traditional culinary practices. Popular dishes include soup with buckwheat noodles and rice cakes. At midnight, Buddhist temples all over Japan ring their bells a total of 108 times, symbolizing the “108 Earthly Temptations”. It’s believed the bells rid the sins of the passing year. It is customary to send Shogatsu post cards similar to sending Christmas cards in Western customs. The cards are sent to arrive on January 1<sup>st</sup> at their destination.

**January 6<sup>th</sup>** Feast of the Epiphany (or just Epiphany), also called Three Kings’ Day, celebrates the story of the visit of the Magi to infant Jesus, or the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles. In some Western Churches, the eve of the feast, or Twelfth Night, is celebrated the day prior. In many countries, the event is celebrated with special pastries, and children often receive gifts in honor of the Magi’s gifts to baby Jesus. In Eastern traditions, baptism is common during Epiphany, and houses may be blessed with Holy Water.



## International Holocaust Remembrance Day



**January 27<sup>th</sup>** International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which is observed on January 27th, is an international memorial day for the victims of the Holocaust. Holocaust is the genocide that resulted in the annihilation of six million European Jews and millions of others by the Nazi regime. The day was designated by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on November 1, 2005. The Resolution establishing January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day urges every member nation of the U.N. to honor the memory of Holocaust victims and encourages the development of educational programs about Holocaust history to help prevent future acts of genocide. It rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an event and condemns all manifestations of religious intolerance, incitement, harassment, or violence against persons or communities based on ethnic origin or religious belief.

**The CPNA Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Council**  
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