

## Diversity & Inclusion Calendar March 2020

Celebration	Date(s)	Description
Women's History Month 	All Month	Started in 1987, Women's History Month recognizes all women for their valuable contributions to history and society.
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 	All Month	Established to increase awareness and understanding of issues affecting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
National Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month 	All Month	Established to raise public awareness of the autoimmune disease that affects the brain and spinal cord and assist those with multiple sclerosis in making informed decisions about their health care.
International Women's Day 	March 8, 2020	First observed in 1911 in Germany, it has now become a major global celebration honoring women's economic, political and social achievements.
Holi 	March 9, 2020 and March 10, 2020	Holi, a Hindu and Sikh spring religious festival observed in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, along with other countries with large Hindu and Sikh populations. People celebrate Holi by throwing colored powder and water at each other. Bonfires are lit the day before in the memory of the miraculous escape that young Prahlada accomplished when demoness Holika carried him into the fire.
Purim 	March 9, 2020 and March 10, 2020	A Jewish celebration that marks the time when the Jewish community living in Persia was saved from genocide. On Purim, Jewish people offer charity and share food with friends.
Deaf History Month 	March 13, 2020 thru April 15, 2020	This observance celebrates key events in deaf history, including the founding of Gallaudet University and the American School for the Deaf.
St. Patrick's Day 	March 17, 2020	Saint Patrick's Day, or the Feast of Saint Patrick, is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17 March, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland.
Lailat al Miraj 	March 22, 2020	Muslim holiday that commemorates the Prophet Muhammad's nighttime journey from Mecca to the 'Farthest Mosque' in Jerusalem where he ascended to heaven, was purified, and given the instruction for Muslims to pray five times daily.
International Transgender Day of Visibility 	March 31, 2020	Celebrated to bring awareness to transgender people and their identities as well as recognize those who helped fight for rights for transgender people.