

Updated February 9, 2018

## **2018 SPECIAL EMPHASIS OBSERVANCES Calendar, Information and Resources**

### **JANUARY 16 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. & DAY OF SERVICE**

(3rd Monday of January)

National Theme: “Remember! Celebrate! Act! A DAY ON, NOT A DAY OFF!!” and  
[Proclamation](#)

Resources & Information: Corporation for National and Community Service  
<https://www.serve.gov/site-page/mlkday>

MLK Day of Service website  
<https://www.nationalservice.gov/mlkday>

The King Center  
(404) 526-8900  
[www.thekingcenter.org](http://www.thekingcenter.org)

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Project at Stanford  
<https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/king-papers/about-papers-project>

### **FEBRUARY BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

National Theme: “African Americans in Times of War” and [Proclamation](#)

Resources & Information: Library of Congress– The African American Mosaic  
<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html>

African American History & Heritage Site  
<http://www.creativefolk.com/blackhistory/blackhistory.html>

[Black History Videos and CDs](#); [Black History Cultural Exhibits](#)

### **MARCH WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH**

National Theme: “Nevertheless She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of  
Discrimination Against Women”

Resources & Information: USDA Women in Agriculture Employee Group  
Email [WIAEmployeeGroup@usda.gov](mailto:WIAEmployeeGroup@usda.gov)

Women in Ag Blog - <http://blogs.usda.gov/category/women-in-ag/>  
(Enter your email under “Sign up for Email Updates” on the left to  
receive notifications)

Contacts: Kimberly Graham, WIA Chair,  
[Kimberly.graham@osec.usda.gov](mailto:Kimberly.graham@osec.usda.gov) or Carrie Moore, WIA Vice  
Chair, [carrie.moore@dm.usa.gov](mailto:carrie.moore@dm.usa.gov)

**MARCH                      WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH (continued)**

Resources & Information: National Women's History Project  
(707) 636-2888  
[www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org)

4,000 Years of Women in Science  
<http://www.astr.ua.edu/4000WS/>

Ms. Foundation for Women  
<http://forwomen.org/?gclid=CNXqzdXvy8MCFYdj7AodI0cAmw>

[Women's Videos and DVDs](#)

**APRIL 26                      TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY**  
(4th Thursday of April)

National Theme: "Service Force o Agents of Positive Change"

Resources & Information: [Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Foundation Bright Ideas Guide](#)

[2018 Logo](#)

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Foundation  
<http://www.daughtersandsonstowork.org/>  
Phone: (800) 676-7780

**MAY                              ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

National Theme: "Unite Our Voices by Working Together"

Resources & Information: Federal Asian Pacific American Heritage Council (FAPAC)  
<http://www.fapac.org/>

Asian Pacific American Network in Agriculture (APANA)  
<http://apana.annuk.com/>

[Asian Pacific Bookmarks, Buttons, Mugs and Magnets](#)

[Cultural Exhibit](#)

**JUNE                              LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER (LGBT) PRIDE MONTH**

National Theme: "Remember the Past, Create the Future"

Resources & Information: Equality USDA Employee Resource Group

[Straight for Equality](#)

[2018 Straight for Equality in the Workplace Learning Sessions Catalog](#)

[PFLAG; PFLAG Diverse and Inclusive World](#)

LGBT Pride Resources & Information (continued):

[National Association of Genders and Sexualities Alliance \(GSA\)  
Network Research and Reports](#)

The Library of Congress: <https://www.loc.gov/lgbt/>

[Pride Flag](#)

**AUGUST 26          WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY**

National Theme: "Celebrating Women's Right to Vote. Vote Equality"

Resources & Information: Ms. Foundation for Women

<http://forwomen.org/?gclid=CNXqzdXvy8MCFYdj7AodI0cAmw>

National Women's History Project

[www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org)

Phone: (707) 636-2888

[Equality Day Bookmarks, Buttons, Mugs and Magnets;  
Women's Videos and DVDs](#)

**SEPT. 15 -          HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

**OCTOBER 15**

**National Theme: Forthcoming – unavailable at this time.**

Resources & Information: USDA Employee Resource Group: Hispanic Alliance for Career Enhancement (HACE)

Point of Contact and contact info forthcoming

Smithsonian Latino Center

<http://latino.si.edu/>

National Hispanic Heritage Month

<http://hispanicheritagemonth.gov/index.html>

[Hispanic Heritage Cultural Exhibits; Hispanic Heritage Videos  
and CDs](#)

**OCTOBER            DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**

**National Theme: Forthcoming – unavailable at this time.**

Resources & Information: USDA Technology and Accessible Resources Gives Employment Today (TARGET) Center

<http://www.targetcenter.dm.usda.gov/>

[Ask Employer Assistance and Resources Network on Disability Inclusion \(EARN\)](#) (Videos; Podcasts)

[EARN Training Center \(Webinars & On Demand Training from Job Accommodation Network](#)

[Job Accommodation Network \(JAN\)](#)

[Beyond National Disability Employment Awareness Month \(NDEAM\): Year-Round Employer Strategies for Advancing Disability Inclusion](#)

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP): Five Policy & Technical Assistance Resources, Disability Statistics, trending Topics, etc.)

<https://www.dol.gov/odep/>

**NOVEMBER AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH**

**National Theme:** Forthcoming – unavailable at this time.

Resources & Information: USDA Employee Resource Group: Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE)

Ms. Kelly Williams, President

Phone: (504)286-4526; email: [Kelly.williams@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Kelly.williams@ars.usda.gov)

The National Congress of American Indians

[www.ncai.org](http://www.ncai.org)

Phone: (202) 466-7767

U. S. Department of the Interior Indian Affairs Document Library

<https://www.bia.gov/DocumentLibrary/index.htm>

[Tribal Leaders Directory](#)

[nativeculture.com](http://nativeculture.com)

[www.nativeculture.com/learn/](http://www.nativeculture.com/learn/)

[Native American Cultural Exhibit; Native American Videos](#)

**NOVEMBER 11 VETERANS DAY**

**NOVEMBER 12 VETERANS DAY OBSERVED (Federal Offices Closed)**

National Theme: “The War to End All Wars”

Resources & Information: U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs

<http://www.a.gov/opa/vetsday/>

Email: [vetsgay@va.gov](mailto:vetsgay@va.gov)

Operation We Are Here (Resources for military community and supporters)

<http://www.operationwearehere.com/VeteransDay.html>

Veterans History Project

<http://www.loc.gov/vets/>

Mary Weber, ARS Veterans Employment Officer

Email: [mary.weber@ars.usda.gov](mailto:mary.weber@ars.usda.gov); Phone: 301-504-1397

**Additional resources for material and ideas for special observances (catalog, pins, videos, etc.) are available from the following sources:**

**ARS EEO Video Library**

<http://www.afm.ars.usda.gov/ODEO/files/ARS%20Video%20Library%20Catalog1.pdf>

**USDA Department-wide Monthly Observances – Links for Websites**

<http://www.dm.usda.gov/employ/observances.htm>

**Presidential Proclamation for Special Observances**

Right click and open hyperlink [Presidential Actions](#) or

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/>

**Diversity Store**

Web site: [www.diversitystore.com](http://www.diversitystore.com)

Phone: 1-800-200-5964

Email: [hmsdc@aol.com](mailto:hmsdc@aol.com)

**Smithsonian**

Web site: <http://www.si.edu/>

Phone: 202-633-1000

Email: [info@si.edu](mailto:info@si.edu)