



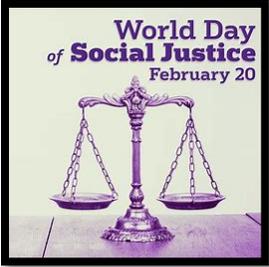
Maron Marvel Bradley Anderson & Tardy LLC
2021 Diversity Calendar

February 2021

Day(s)	Group, Culture or Cause Recognized
<p>All Month</p> 	<p><u>African-American History Month (US, Canada)</u></p> <p>African-American History Month (also known as Black History Month) began as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African diaspora. It celebrates a culture rife with suffering and purposely inflicted inequality, but ultimately gilded by triumph and progress.</p> <p>February 1, <u>National Freedom Day</u>, celebrates President Lincoln's signing of what would later become the 13th amendment in 1865. Through the efforts of <u>Major Richard Wright, Sr.</u>, the observance was not Congressionally recognized until nearly 100 years after the amendment was signed. This holiday seeks to promote goodwill, harmony and equality amongst all citizens.</p> <p>In March 2008, Canada officially recognized February as Black History Month. Though few Canadians were aware of the fact that people of African descent were once enslaved in the territory, the Canadian parliament finally and formally recognized the key role of Black Canadians in shaping its diverse, compassionate and prosperous culture.</p>

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<p>11</p> 	<p><u>International Day of Women and Girls in Science</u></p> <p>In December 2015, the General Assembly of the United Nations recognized the annual observance of February 11 as a day devoted to ending the gender imbalance in science. In order to achieve full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girl, and further achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.</p>
<p>12</p> 	<p><u>Chinese New Year</u></p> <p>Celebrated by more than 20% of the world, Chinese New Year is the festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar. The holiday's traditions, symbols and rituals celebrate positivity, forward thinking and hope.</p> <p>2021 is the year of the Ox, a symbol of fortitude and hard work.</p>
<p>14</p> 	<p><u>St. Valentine's Day</u></p> <p>A day of romance named in honor of two early Christian martyrs, this day is recognized as a significant cultural, religious and commercial celebration of love in many regions of the world.</p>

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<p>15</p> 	<p><u>Nirvana Day</u></p> <p>On February 15th, nearly 7% of the world's total population will commemorate the death of the historical Buddha and his entry into a Nirvana, a complete state of peace. The Buddha, a spiritual guru and son of a king, is said to have lived a life of luxury until he left the palace and saw the sufferings of his people. With deep meditation, he realized that all of his wealth and luxury were spiritually worthless.</p> <p>On this day across the globe, many cultures celebrate with reflection, mediation and pilgrimage to sites of significance, including some thought to have been visited by the Buddha.</p>
<p>15</p> 	<p><u>Presidents' Day</u></p> <p>On this day, Americans celebrate the birthdays and lives of all U.S. presidents. Officially recognized by Congress in 1968, Presidents' Day is usually marked by public ceremonies and reflections on the history and progress of American culture.</p>
<p>16</p> 	<p><u>Fat Tuesday ("Mardi Gras Day")</u></p> <p>Beginning on or after the Christian feasts of the Epiphany and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday, the American version of this carnival style celebration is over 300 years old. The underlying tradition of Mardi Gras dates back thousands of years and is celebrated all over the world.</p> <p>During this period, Christians celebrate various indulgences before refraining from those indulgences during the fasting season of Lent. Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras Day marks the end of the celebratory period.</p>

Day(s)	Group, Culture or Cause Recognized
<p>17</p> 	<p><u>Ash Wednesday</u></p> <p>A Christian holy day of prayer and fasting, this traditional Western Christian holiday is observed by many different denominations, including followers of the Catholic faith.</p> <p>On this day, many Christians receive and display ashen markings of the Crucifix as a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God prior to Easter.</p>
<p>20</p> 	<p><u>World Day of Social Justice</u></p> <p>This day is devoted to the promotion of social justice, human rights and equality throughout the world. This important, unified humanitarian effort is marked by intentional acts to remove social barriers and inequality.</p> <p>Each year is focused on a different social justice issue, with 2021 titled "Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice."</p>
<p>25 – 26</p> 	<p><u>Purim</u></p> <p>This traditional Jewish holiday commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from persecution as told in the Book of Esther. The underlying theological statement inspires all to have faith during times of adversity.</p> <p>Many celebrate this holiday by generously providing hope and sharing with the needy.</p>



African-American History Month Spotlight: ONESIMUS, the Father of American Inoculation Practices

Inoculation was introduced to America by [ONESIMUS](#), a slave.

Few details are known about the birth of Onesimus, but it is assumed he was born in Africa in the late seventeenth century before eventually landing in Boston. One of a thousand people of African descent living in the Massachusetts colony, Onesimus was a "gift" to a Puritan church minister from his congregation in 1706.

Onesimus told the minister about the centuries old tradition of inoculation practiced in Africa. By extracting the material from an infected person and scratching it into the skin of an uninfected person, you could deliberately introduce smallpox to the healthy individual making them immune. Considered extremely dangerous at the time, the minister convinced a doctor to experiment with the procedure when a smallpox epidemic hit Boston in 1721. Opposed politically, religiously and medically in the United States and abroad, the practice was initially not well-received, but later credited for mitigating the smallpox epidemic within the colony.

Onesimus was eventually able to purchase his freedom, but never received any credit or compensation for his contribution to American medicine. Onesimus' traditional African practice was used to inoculate American soldiers during the Revolutionary War and introduced the concept of inoculation to the United States. Posthumously, and 200 years after his contribution, he was declared one of the "Best Bostonians of All Time."



diversity!

RECIPES OF THE MONTH!

In recognition of the many significant cultural holidays and contributions during the month of February, we have three delicious recipes to share with you as you recognize and celebrate our

[Nian Gao](#) (Traditional Chinese Steamed Rice Cake)

An easier version of the traditional steamed rice cake served during Lunar New Year, this dense, sticky cake is sweet with a wonderful texture. The dish symbolizes luck and good wishes for a better year!



[Apricot Hamantaschen](#) (Purim Cookies)

Triangle-shaped flaky pastries, filled with sweet apricot spread.



[Mardi Gras King Cake](#)

This New Orleans tradition is associated with the Christian Epiphany. Both tasty and pleasing to the eye, the three traditional colors represent justice (purple), faith (green) and power (gold).