WVU at Parkersburg

CALENDAR OF SOCIAL JUSTICE OBSERVANCES

2018-19

2018

July
26 Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) -- A wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability.

August
5 Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 -- A landmark piece of federal legislation in the United States that prohibits discrimination in voting. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the Act is widely considered to be the most effective piece of civil rights legislation ever enacted in the United States.
26 Women's Equality Day is a day proclaimed each year by the United States President to commemorate the granting of the right to vote to women throughout the country on an equal basis with men. Women in the United States were granted the right to vote on August 26, 1920, when the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was certified as law.
28 Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington which was one of the largest political rallies for human rights in United States history and called for civil and economic rights for African Americans. It took place in Washington, D.C. on August 28, 1963. Martin Luther King, Jr., standing in front of the Lincoln Memorial, delivered his historic "I Have a Dream" speech in which he called for an end to racism.

September
National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 – Oct. 15) is recognized by Presidential Proclamation to honor the contributions and the important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans in the United States and to celebrate the group's heritage and culture.

October
National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is recognized by Presidential Proclamation each October to help bring awareness to the problem of domestic violence.
National Disability Employment Awareness Month is held each October to raise awareness about disability employment issues and to celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.
National Bullying Prevention Month
Held during the month of October National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month unites communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention.
LGBT History Month is an annual observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. It is observed during October in the United States, to include National Coming Out Day on October 11.

11 National Coming Out Day is an internationally observed civil awareness day celebrating individuals who publicly identify as a gender or sexual minority. The day is observed annually by members of the LGBT community and allies on October 11.
15-19 Disability History Week in West Virginia is established in W. Va. Code §18-10O-5, which designates the third week of October annually as Disability History Week for the State of West Virginia and encourages state institutions of higher education to conduct and promote activities that provide education, awareness and understanding of disability history, people with disabilities and the disability rights movement.

November
National American Indian Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the accomplishments of the peoples who were the original inhabitants, explorers and settlers of the United States.

11 Veterans Day is an official United States holiday observed annually on November 11 to honor people who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, also known as veterans.
12-16 International Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education promotes programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States.

2019

January
- **National Stalking Awareness Month** is a national campaign to raise awareness about the crime of stalking.
- **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** was designated by the U.S. Senate in 2007 to raise awareness about human trafficking.
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday** is celebrated as a national holiday on the third Monday in January in connection with the birthday of civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., which is January 15.

February
- **National African American History Month**, also known as Black History Month, is an annual observance in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African diaspora. It is celebrated annually in the United States in February.

March
- **National Women’s History Month** is celebrated in March and highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society.
- **Deaf History Month (March 13 – April 15)** is observed nationwide every year from March 13 through April 15, celebrates deaf history and, in particular, contributions made by the deaf and hearing impaired to American culture and society.

April
- **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** is an annual campaign observed in April to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence.
- **World Autism Awareness Month** is observed worldwide as a time to raise awareness around the differences of those on the spectrum, supporting people and educating the public on autism.
- **Autism Awareness Day** is observed on April 2 with the Light It Up Blue campaign, in recognition of UN sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day during April, World Autism Month.

May
- **Older Americans Month** honors older Americans and celebrates their contributions to our communities and our nation.
- **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month** is a celebration of the culture, traditions, and history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States.
- **Jewish American Heritage Month** is an annual recognition and celebration of Jewish American achievements in and contributions to the United States of America.

June
- **African-American Music Appreciation Month** is a celebration for African American Music every year in the month of June in the United States.
- **National Caribbean-American Heritage Month** recognizes the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States.
- **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Month** promotes a positive stance against discrimination and violence toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people to promote their self-affirmation, dignity, equality rights, increase their visibility as a social group, build community, and celebrate sexual diversity and gender variance.