

Religious and Cultural Commemorations 2019-2020



Below is a calendar of religious and cultural holidays to help you plan for the year. You will find dates, videos, classroom resources and personal essays about the different events.

We would like to have the resources for each of the observances listed below and we welcome your help. Please forward us ideas, resources, or personal reflections about any of the events below.

September			
Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 to October 15) Each year, in the United States, National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of Americans whose lineage is from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central or South America. Click Here for Resources			
1	First Installation of Adi Granth	Sikhism	Adi Granth, (Punjabi: "First Book") also called Granth or Granth Sahib, the sacred scripture of Sikhism, a religion of India. It is a collection of nearly 6,000 hymns of the Sikh Gurus (religious leaders) and various early and medieval saints of different religions and castes.
1-12	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hinduism	Ganesh Chaturthi, in <u>Hinduism</u> , 10-day <u>festival</u> marking the birth of the elephant-headed deity <u>Ganesha</u> , the god of prosperity and wisdom. It begins on the fourth day (<i>chaturthi</i>) of the month of Bhadrapada (August–September), the sixth month of the <u>Hindu calendar</u> .
2	Labor Day		Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.
13-28	Pitru Paksh	Hinduism	Pitru Paksha is a sixteen day period in which Hindus honor and give respect to their ancestors. During this time period – which begins on the first

			Purnima (full moon) following Ganesh Chaturthi and ends on Peddala Amavasya – allows participants to not only honor those from their direct biological lineage, but also those who have contributed to their spiritual, moral and/or their intellectual development either in this life or during previous lives. These individuals can be family, friends, mentors, teachers or anyone else who has touched their lives in a meaningful way.
17	Vishwakarma Puja	Hinduism	Vishwakarma Jayanti is a day of celebration for Vishwakarma, a Hindu god, the divine architect. He is considered as swayambhu and creator of the world. He constructed the holy city of Dwarka where Krishna ruled, the Maya Sabha of the Pandavas, and was the creator of many fabulous weapons for the gods.
24	Krishna Janmashtami	Hinduism	Krishna <i>Janmashtami</i> is the Hindu festival celebrating the birthday of Lord Krishna, the god of love and compassion. In Vaishnavism, the largest sect in Hinduism, Krishna is the eighth incarnation of the supreme god, Vishnu. Some Hindus worship Krishna himself as the supreme deity.
29-Oct. 8	Navaratri	Hinduism	Navaratri is a Hindu festival that spans nine nights and is celebrated every year in the autumn. It is observed for different reasons and celebrated differently in various parts of the Indian subcontinent. Theoretically, there are four seasonal Navaratri.
30	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	<p>The Jewish High Holy Days begin September 30 with Rosh Hashanah. September 9 was the beginning of the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah. We sat down with Rabbi Rachel Ackerman, the Senior Rabbi at Temple Shalom in Chevy Chase, to ask her questions about this season's holy days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Reflections on the High Holy Days • An Overview of the Jewish High Holy Days • Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year
October			
LGBTQ History Month			
2	Mehergan	Persian	Mehregān is a Zoroastrian and Persian festival celebrated to honor the yazata Mithra, which is responsible for friendship, affection and love. It is also widely referred to as the Persian Festival of Autumn.
4-8	Durga Puja	Hinduism	Durga Puja celebrates the victory of the goddess Durga over the demon king Mahishasura. It begins on the same day as Navratri, a nine-night festival celebrating the divine feminine. Durga Puja's first day is Mahalaya, which heralds the advent of the goddess. Celebrations and worship begin on Sasthi, the sixth day.
8	Dussehra	Hinduism	Dussehra (Vijaya Dashami, Dasara, or Dashain) is a Hindu festival that celebrates the victory of good over evil. It is a gazetted holiday in India, which is marked on the 10th day of the bright half (Shukla Paksha) of the month of Ashvin (Ashwayuja), according to the Hindu calendar.
9	Yom Kippur	Judaism	Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement is October 9. Click here to listen to Rabbi Ackerman explain the significance and what students want their teachers to know. Student Reflections on the High Holy Days

13-20	Sukkot	Judaism	Sukkot, commonly translated as Festival of Tabernacles also known as Chag HaAsif, the Festival of Ingathering, is a biblical Jewish holiday celebrated on the 15th day of the seventh month, Tishrei
14	Columbus Day		Columbus Day is a national holiday in many countries of the Americas and elsewhere which officially celebrates the anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas on October 12, 1492.
14	Indigenous Peoples Day		"Indigenous Peoples Day" reimagines Columbus Day and changes a celebration of colonialism into an opportunity to reveal historical truths about the genocide and oppression of indigenous peoples in the Americas, to organize against current injustices, and to celebrate indigenous resistance. Click here for more information.
20	Gurgaddi Guru Granth Sahib	Sikhism	It is the day when the Guru Granth Sahib was bestowed with the title of being the eternal and final Sikh guru thus ending the line of Human gurus.
21	Shemini Atzeret	Judaism	Many Jewish communities in the United States celebrate Shemini Atzeret (or Shmini Atzeret) and Simchat Torah . Shemini Atzeret is a Jewish holiday dedicated to the love of God. Simchat Torah marks the end of the Sukkot (or Sukkoth) festival.
	Simchat Torah	Judaism	Simchat Torah or Simhat Torah is a Jewish holiday that celebrates and marks the conclusion of the annual cycle of public Torah readings, and the beginning of a new cycle.
27	Diwali	Hinduism	Over one billion Hindus, 27 million Sikhs, and many Jains and Buddhists begin celebrating Diwali on October 27. This five-day "Celebration of Lights" marks the victory of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance, and good over evil. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to see a short video that illustrates the different Diwali customs. • Click here to listen to a brief overview of how families observe Diwali in Montgomery County,,from Dr. Richa Agarwala, Interfaith Outreach Coordinator for the Chinmaya Mission Washington Regional Center and a member of the Hindu American Foundation.
28	Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	Thousands of Bahá'í followers around the world celebrate the birth of the Báb on 20th October. Báb, which literally translates as 'the gate', was a prophet and forerunner of the Bahá'í revelation. Likened to John the Baptist some two thousand years before, the Báb called on people to purify themselves for the coming of the messenger of God.
30	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	The Birth of Bahá'u'lláh is one of nine holy days in the Bahá'í calendar that is celebrated by Bahá'ís and during which work is suspended. The holy day celebrates the birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

November

November is National Native American Heritage Month. It is an opportunity for educators and students to learn about the culture, traditions, music, art, and worldviews of indigenous peoples in the United States. [Click here for videos, history, and classroom ideas](#) and [here for lesson plans](#).

1	All Saints Day	Christianity	All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, or Halloween, is a Christian celebration in honor of all the saints from Christian history. In Western Christianity, it is observed on November 1st by the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church, the Lutheran Church, and other Protestant denominations. The Eastern Orthodox Church and associated Eastern Catholic churches observe All Saints Day on the first Sunday following Pentecost.
11	Veterans' Day		Veterans Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans, that is, persons who have served in the United States Armed Forces.
12	Birth of Guru Nanak Dev ji	Sikhism	On this day Guru Nanak was born in Nanakana Sahib, now situated in Pakistan. Every year Sikhs celebrate this day with large-scale gatherings. Candles, divas and lights are lit in <u>Gurdwaras</u> , in the honour of Guru along with fireworks. The birthday celebration usually lasts three days.
19	Lhabab Duchen	Buddhism	The festival is also celebrated in other Buddhist Asian countries including Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand and Laos where it is celebrated a few weeks before the Tibetan and Bhutanese version. Lhabab Duchen is a Buddhist festival celebrated to observe the Buddha's descent from the Trāyastriṃśa heaven down to earth.
24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur	Sikhism	Guru Tegh Bahadur was the ninth of ten Gurus of the Sikh religion. Tegh Bahadur continued in the spirit of the first guru, Nanak; his 116 poetic hymns are registered in Guru Granth Sahib.
28	Thanksgiving Day		For many students, Thanksgiving stories and celebrations serve as their first introduction to the histories and cultures of American Indians. Click here for articles, resources, and classroom plans from Teaching Tolerance that provide more perspectives for educators and students.
29	American Indian Heritage Day		November is National Native American Heritage Month. It is an opportunity for educators and students to learn about the culture, traditions, music, art, and worldviews of indigenous peoples in the United States. Click for videos, history, and classroom ideas.
December			
8	Bodhi Day	Buddhist	Bodhi Day is a Buddhist holiday which falls on December 8th and celebrates the day in which Siddhartha Gautama sat underneath the Bodhi tree and attained enlightenment.
	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Christianity	The Feast of the Immaculate Conception centers on the belief that Jesus' mother, the Virgin Mary, was conceived without sin. Pope Pius IX issued an apostolic constitution, known as the Ineffabilis Deus, on December 8, 1854.
	Gita Jayanti	Hinduism	Gita Jayanti is an annual celebration to commemorate the day when Lord Krishna rendered his philosophical teachings - immortalized in the epic Mahabharata
22	Yalda	Persian	Iranians around the world celebrate Yalda, which is one of the most ancient Persian festivals. The festival dates back to the time when a majority of

			Persians were followers of Zoroastrianism prior to the advent of Islam.
22-30	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Judaism	We sat down with our colleague Sheila Burglinger, Elementary Supervisor for Science and Math (STEM), to tell us what Hanukkah means to her.
25	Christmas Day	Christianity	A few of our EIU staff share their reflections about how they observe Christmas.
26-Jan. 1	Kwanzaa		Kwanzaa honors African heritage in the United States. We asked Study Circles facilitator Judy Jourdain Earl to explain the holiday and talk about why it is important to Judy and her family.
January			
1	New Year's Day		New Year's Day, also simply called New Year or New Year's, is observed on January 1, the first day of the year on the modern Gregorian calendar as well as the Julian calendar. In pre-Christian Rome under the Julian calendar, the day was dedicated to Janus, the god of gateways and beginnings, for whom January is also named.
2	Birth of Guru Gobind Singh	Sikhism	Guru Gobind Singh, born Gobind Rai, was the tenth Sikh Guru, a spiritual master, warrior, poet and philosopher. When his father, Guru Tegh Bahadur, was beheaded for refusing to convert to Islam, Guru Gobind Singh was formally installed as the leader of the Sikhs at age nine, becoming the tenth Sikh Guru.
6	Three Kings Day	Christianity	Three Kings Day is celebrated throughout Latin America, Spain, and in Latino communities of the United States. Click to learn how many families commemorate this holiday in MCPS.
7	Orthodox Christmas	Christianity	Orthodox Churches in Russia, Serbia, Jerusalem, Ukraine, Ethiopia and other countries use the old 'Julian' calendar and people in those churches celebrate Christmas on January 7th. Most people in the Greek Orthodox Church celebrate Christmas on December 25th.
13	Korean American Day		Korean American Day on January 13 commemorates the arrival of the first Korean immigrants to the United States in 1903. The day also honors the Korean American's immense contributions to every aspect of society.
15	Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Makara Sankranti, or Maghi, is a festival day in the Hindu calendar, dedicated to the deity Surya. It is observed each year in January. It marks the first day of the sun's transit into the Makara, marking the end of the month with the winter solstice and the start of longer days.
20	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day		To commemorate Martin Luther King Jr Day, we sat down with our colleague, Ms. Ruth Musicante, SEIU Liaison to the Professional Growth Systems. Ruth's father worked with Dr. King. Click here to listen to this powerful interview to hear Ruth talk about Dr. King, her father, and the need to continue to work for justice today.
25	Lunar New Year		Countries all over Asia celebrate the Lunar New Year. Many MCPS families

			and staff celebrate too. Use the links below to learn more <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A short video and article that describe the holiday's significance and different customs. • A more in-depth look at the holiday, the history, recipes and how to greet your students and families who celebrate.
	Tet (Vietnamese New Year)		Tết, Vietnamese New Year, Vietnamese Lunar New Year or Tet Holiday, is the most important celebration in Vietnamese culture. The word is a shortened form of Tết Nguyên Đán, which is Sino-Vietnamese for "Feast of the First Morning of the First Day".
29	Vasant Panchami	Hinduism	Vasant Panchami, also spelled Basant Panchami, is a festival that marks the preliminary preparations for the arrival of spring, celebrated by people in various ways depending upon the region in the Indian subcontinent.

February

February is Black History Month. We have pulled together a great selection of resources. [Click here for history, events, and classroom resources.](#)

15	Parinirvana	Buddhism	In Buddhism, the term parinirvana is commonly used to refer to nirvana-after-death, which occurs upon the death of the body of someone who has attained nirvana during his or her lifetime. It implies a release from the Saṃsāra, karma and rebirth as well as the dissolution of the skandhas.
17	Presidents' Day		According to the federal government, the holiday observed on the third Monday in February is officially Washington's Birthday. But many Americans believe that this holiday is now called "Presidents' Day," in honor of both Presidents Washington and Lincoln, whose birthdays are Feb. 22 and Feb. 12, respectively.
21	Maha Shivratri	Hinduism	Maha Shivaratri is a Hindu festival celebrated annually in honor of Lord Shiva, and in particular, marks the day of the consummation of marriage of Shiva.
25	Losar (Tibetan New Year)	Buddhism	Losar is a festival in Tibetan Buddhism. The holiday is celebrated on various dates depending on location tradition. The holiday is a New Year's festival, celebrated on the first day of the lunisolar Tibetan calendar, which corresponds to a date in February or March in the Gregorian calendar.
26	Ash Wednesday	Christianity	Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of prayer and fasting. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and falls on the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter. Ash Wednesday is traditionally observed by Western Christians.

March

March is Women's History Month. Take a look at these great resources.

- [Classroom Resources](#)
- [What Schools Teach About Women's History Leaves a Lot to Be Desired](#)

Resources from the National Women's History Museum:

- Landmark Supreme Court Cases
<https://www.womenshistory.org/resources/lesson-plan/landmark-supreme-court-cases>

- Fab Five Marching Women <https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/fab-fiv>
- Student & Educator Page <https://www.womenshistory.org/students-and-educators>

Deaf History Month is March 13 through April 15. MCPS serves over 400 students who are deaf or hard of hearing. [Take a look at these resources compiled by MCPS teachers.](#)

9	Chotrul Duchen	Buddhism	Chötrul Düchen, also known as Chonga Choepa or the Butter Lamp Festival, is one of the four Buddhist festivals commemorating four events in the life of the Buddha, according to Tibetan traditions. Chötrul Düchen closely follows Losar, the Tibetan New Year.
10	Holi	Hinduism	Holi is a popular ancient Hindu festival, originating from the Indian subcontinent. It is celebrated predominantly in India and Nepal, but has also spread to other areas of Asia and parts of the Western world through the diaspora from the Indian subcontinent. Watch this video to learn more.
	Purim	Judaism	Purim is one of the most fun holidays celebrated by the Jewish people, but is often under recognized. Purim (held on the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Adar — usually March or April) commemorates the day Esther, Queen of Persia, saved the Jewish people from execution by Haman, the advisor to the Persian king. Watch this video to learn more.
12	Kuan Yin (Avalokitesvara) Birthday	Buddhism	The birthday of the Goddess of Mercy is a celebration of Kuan Yin, the Bodhisattva ("Buddha-to-be") of infinite compassion and mercy. ... Kuan Yin, the Chinese name, means "regarder of sounds," or "of the voices of the suffering." The Japanese word for the deity is pronounced "Kannon." Women especially celebrate Kuan Yin.
20	Norouz or Nowruz (Iranian New Year)	Persian	Nowruz is the Iranian New Year, also known as the Persian New Year, which is celebrated worldwide by various ethno-linguistic groups. Despite its Iranian and Zoroastrian origins, Nowruz has been celebrated by diverse communities.
25	Ugadi (Hindu New Year)	Hinduism	Ugadi is the New Year's Day for the people of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states in India. It is festively observed in these regions on the first day of the Hindu lunisolar calendar month of Chaitra. This typically falls in March or April of the Gregorian calendar.
	Vaisakhi	Hinduism Sikhism	Vaisakhi (IAST: visākhī), also known as Baisakhi , Vaishakhi, or Vasakhi is a historical and religious festival in Hinduism and Sikhism. It is usually celebrated on 13 or 14 April every year, which commemorates the formation of Khalsa panth of warriors under Guru Gobind Singh in 1699
28	Khordad	Persian	Khordad is the third month of the Solar Hijri calendar. Khordad has thirty-one days. It begins in May and ends in June by the Gregorian calendar. Khordad is the third month of the spring season. It is followed by Tir.

April

April is Arab American History Month.

- "What Learning Arabic in America taught me about being Arab American". [Read this powerful essay](#) by Wootton High School Staff Development Teacher, Amani Elkassabany

- [Click here for more history and classroom resources](#)

2	Ram Navami	Hinduism	Rama Navami is a spring Hindu festival that celebrates the birthday of lord Rama. He is particularly important to the Vaishnavism tradition of Hinduism, as the seventh avatar of Vishnu. The festival celebrates the descent of god Vishnu as Rama avatar, through his birth to King Dasharatha and Queen Kausalya in Ayodhya.
7	Theravada New Year	Buddhism	Theravada New Year - Buddhist festival celebrated followers of Theravada. Celebrated for three days from the first full moon day in April. ... The Theravāda Path starts with learning, to be followed by practise, culminating in the realization of Nirvana.
8	Hanuman Jayanti	Hinduism	Hanuman Jayanti is a Hindu religious festival that celebrates the birth of Lord Sri Hanuman, who is immensely venerated throughout India and Nepal. This festival is celebrated on different days in different parts of India.
8-16	Passover	Judaism	Passover or Pesach is a major Jewish holiday and one of the most widely celebrated Jewish holidays. Together with Shavuot and Sukkot, Passover was one of the Three Pilgrimage Festivals during which the entire population of the kingdom of Judah made a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem.
9	Holy Maundy Thursday	Christianity	Maundy Thursday is the Christian holy day falling on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the Washing of the Feet and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles, as described in the canonical gospels. It is the fifth day of Holy Week, preceded by Holy Wednesday and followed by Good Friday.
10	Good Friday	Christianity	Good Friday is a Christian holiday commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. It is observed during Holy Week as part of the Paschal Triduum on the Friday preceding Easter Sunday, and may coincide with the Jewish observance of Passover.
12	Easter	Christianity	Easter, also called Pascha or Resurrection Sunday, is a festival and holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day after his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary c. 30 AD.
16	Orthodox Holy Thursday	Christianity	On Thursday of Holy Week four events are commemorated: the washing of the disciples' feet, the institution of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, the agony in the garden of Gethsemane, and the betrayal of Christ by Judas. Commemorations of Holy Thursday.
17	Orthodox Good Friday	Christianity	Orthodox Christian churches in the United States generally observe Good Friday at a later date than the Good Friday date observed by many western churches. Good Friday focuses on Jesus Christ's death, which is described in the Christian bible. The day is also known as Great Friday, Holy Friday, and Holy and Great Friday.
19	Orthodox Easter	Christianity	Many Orthodox churches base their Easter date on the Julian calendar, which often differs from the Gregorian calendar that is used by many

			western countries. Therefore the Orthodox Easter period often occurs later than the Easter period that falls around the time of the March equinox.
19-May 1	Festival of Ridvan	Baha'i	Riḍván is a twelve-day festival in the Bahá'í Faith, commemorating Bahá'u'lláh's declaration that he was a Manifestation of God. In the Bahá'í Calendar, it begins at sunset on the 13th of Jalál, which translates to the 20th or 21st of April, depending on the date of the March equinox.
21	Yom Ha'Shoah	Judaism	Many people in the United States observe Yom Hashoah, which is also known as Holocaust Remembrance Day. It commemorates the lives and heroism of Jewish people who died in the Holocaust between 1933 and 1945.
23-May 23	Ramadan: The Islamic Month of Fasting	Islam	Muslim families across MCPS and the world will be observing Ramadan this year from April 23 through May 23. We asked students at White Oak Middle School to tell us what they would like their teachers to know about Ramadan. Also, take a look at the resources developed by MCPS teachers <i>Manal Agabein and Farhana Shah about Ramadan and the meaning of fasting.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear from White Oak Middle School students • Information and resources about Ramadan
May			
7	Vesak (Theravada)	Buddhism	Vesak is the most sacred holy day of Theravada Buddhism. Also called <i>Visakha Puja</i> or <i>Wesak</i> , Vesak is an observation of the birth, enlightenment, and death (parinirvana) of the historical Buddha.
	Wesak or Buddha Day	Buddhism	Wesak, also spelled Vesak, Sanskrit Vaishakha, Pali Vesakha, most important of the Theravada Buddhist festivals, commemorating the birth, enlightenment, and death of the Buddha. The event is observed on the full-moon day of the lunar month Vesakha, which falls in April or May. The day is observed as a public holiday in many Southeast Asian countries. It is marked by special devotional services and various deeds intended to be meritorious, such as the presentation of food or alms to monks or the release of captive birds.
19	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Laylat al-Qadr, variously rendered in English as the Night of Decree, Night of Power, Night of Value, Night of Destiny, or Night of Measures, is, in Islamic belief, the night when the first verses of the Quran were revealed to the Islamic prophet Muhammad. It is one of the nights of the last ten days of Ramadan.
21	Ascension Thursday (Western)	Christianity	Ascension Day is observed in the United States on the 40th day of Easter. It commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven, according to the New Testament of the Bible.
24	Vesak (Theravada)	Buddhism	Vesak is the most sacred holy day of Theravada Buddhism. Also called <i>Visakha Puja</i> or <i>Wesak</i> , Vesak is an observation of the birth, enlightenment, and death (parinirvana) of the historical Buddha.

	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Eid al-Fitr, also called the "Festival of Breaking the Fast", is a religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide that marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting. This religious Eid is the first and only day in the month of Shawwal during which Muslims are not permitted to fast.
25	Memorial Day		Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering and honoring the military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The holiday is observed on the last Monday of May. Memorial Day was observed on May 30 from 1868 to 1970.
28	Orthodox Ascension Thursday	Christianity	Ascension Day is the 40th day of Easter. It occurs 39 days after Easter Sunday. It is a Christian holiday that commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven, according to Christian belief.
29	Shavuot	Judaism	Shavuot or Shovuos, in Ashkenazi usage, Shavu'oth in Sephardi and Mizrahi Hebrew, is known as the Feast of Weeks in English and as Pentecost in Ancient Greek. It is a Jewish holiday that occurs on the sixth day of the Hebrew month of Sivan, meaning it may fall May 15 – June 14. Shavuot has a double significance.
June			
5	Saga Dawa Duchen	Buddhism	Saga Dawa is called the "month of merits" for Tibetan Buddhists. <i>Dawa</i> means "month" in Tibetan, and "Saga" or "Saka" is the name of a star prominent in the sky during the fourth lunar month of the Tibetan calendar when Saga Dawa is observed. Saga Dawa usually begins in May and ends in June.
19	Juneteenth (aka: Freedom Day or Emancipation Day)		Juneteenth Celebration. It is the name for a holiday celebrating June 19, 1865, the day when Union soldiers arrived in Texas and spread the word that President Lincoln had delivered his Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth has become a day for African Americans to celebrate their freedom, culture, and achievements.