



# **CELEBRATIONS** **CALENDAR**

Expectations for Staff **2025**



# Welcome to Timberland Regional Library 2025 Celebrations Calendar!

The 2025 Celebrations Calendar Guidelines objectives are for:

- Learning about and understanding culturally significant events throughout the year.
- Celebrating a diversity of perspectives, groups that have been historically resilient and underrepresented, and intersecting identities throughout TRL service areas and the world at large.
- Connecting, celebrating, and honoring our communities during days, months, and whole year through.

This calendar includes and involves diverse voices, cultures, intersecting identities, and experiences in tandem with local, regional, and national celebrations and observances the whole year for programming, outreach, and displays.

Please use this guide with attached calendars to plan during the year!

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## Resources for Branch Staff

### Youth & Family Services

Libraries providing programming to the greatest number of community members gives everyone the ability to broaden their understanding of the world, build connections, enriching their lives and those of fellow community members.

When planning programs or booking presenters, please use the guiding documents and resources located (on the internal) [Programs page](#).

### Collection Services

Highlighted books by diverse authors will be featured throughout the year on the web carousel to align with observances and celebrations at TRL.org.

Note that the TRL catalog web links often include additional items by noted authors as well as “read-a-likes”. Additionally, the American Library Association Book and Media awards, publications such as School Library Journal, organizations such as [We Need Diverse Books](#), “No Name BookClubs” and readers advisory tools such as Novelist feature titles that can assist with display ideas.

### Creative Services

Creative Services posts a monthly thematic web page banner for the TRL website and for newsletter distribution. Staff may utilize these in conjunction with any local displays, programs, or community engagement in tandem with local events and outreach. Follow the [Publicity and Graphics Team Site](#) or [Creative Services Sharepoint](#) for file drops and updates. Be sure to upload photos of how your branch celebrated each month to the EDI Celebrations Campaign Folder.

## Tools

### Canva

Canva is great for creating display posters, social media, and sharing with colleagues. Ready to go graphics and elements are located in the [EDI Celebrations Folder](#).

### Program Planning

As per the storytime rubric, the expectation is that the storytime presenters will include diverse books: celebrate a variety of cultures, experiences, celebrations, and identities. The featured booklists in the celebrations calendar would be one resource for book ideas that would fulfill this expectation.

When planning programs or booking presenters, please check for the latest guideline updates and resources located on the [Program Planning SharePoint page](#).

*Check in with your supervisor or building manager if you have questions regarding programming guidelines or any Performer Presenter Booking Procedures.*

### Book Groups

When choosing books for your TRL Book Club please choose a book that includes at least one of our monthly celebration themes.

Planning a book discussion group? Check out [TRL Book Club webpage](#).

### Events Calendar

Use event calendar to list and schedule events whether in a library or off-site or virtually.

### Branch Social Media

When creating your social media, include **#TRLCelebrations**.

- Create local posts, content and sharing with others using Canva.
- Share posts from the district page and tag other locations with local posts!
- Book or Kanopy reviews of works about the Celebration.
- Support for local organizations - Reshare local/regional community content from organizations for related or celebratory events. Tag the organization
- Promote events, post pictures, and images relating to the day, week, or month Celebration.

## TRL Participation

Branch staff are required to participate in all district wide “Featured Celebrations” with **at least one of the recommendations below** for these noteworthy observances:

- Connect with local organizations and create a program that celebrates or shares resources about a monthly celebration.
- Provide outreach at a local community event held in honor of the monthly celebration.
- Provide resources about the monthly celebration at any outreach event.
- Through social media, highlight a local business or organization relational to a Celebrations month, week, day
- Hold a movie or documentary screening of a topic related to the featured celebration.
- Feature stories by diverse authors/illustrators of the featured celebration during storytimes.
- Feature book club/Pageturner selections by diverse authors for the featured celebration.
- Create a display promoting resources and material featuring topics related to the featured celebration month.
- Work with an organization or community group to host their community display relational to a celebration.

For example, during Black History month, staff may:

1. Feature Black authors or illustrators for story time, or
2. Book a Humanities WA program featuring the achievements and history of Black Americans, or
3. Create a display of mixed media and information about Black History resources and community events, or
4. Partner with a local business related to the celebration event and arrange to do a library card sign up event as outreach there.

*Note: If programming is not happening at the branch during the month, doing any one of the activities above in lieu is fine.*

Refer to the [Program Planning website](#) which contains guiding templates, documents, performer information, and accessibility guidelines including [ASL Request Process](#).

## Duration of Observance

All branches are required to participate in the district’s Featured Celebration for each month. Please note highlighting a featured celebration on the TRL website is not to the exclusion of other observances. We recognize and honor the intersection of identities across these Celebrations as reflected with one another, the wider community, and in services and programs year-round.

### Month Celebrations

Month long celebrations are recognized by TRL across the library system. All branches participate in the system wide observance for each month. As there are multiple monthly observances every year, the Celebrations Committee selects a month that will feature most prominently on the website each month. All related graphics and images will be posted on the internal [Publicity and Graphics Team page](#) and in the Canva [EDI Celebrations Folder](#).

### Days of Observance and Weeks of Recognition

Libraries have the option to celebrate these by featuring the theme/event in programs for the week, through their social media posts, programming, and other community activities.

### Themes

Celebration Month themes are selected by those who have been historically underrepresented to broaden understanding and appreciation for depth of history, heritage, and legacy. Themes may be represented through local community events, civic, or public service organizations, and private and/or public institutions locally, regionally, or nationally. Celebratory months may not always have an established theme (or one at time of publication), in which case, one may not be listed.

## JANUARY

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Helpful Links:

[Poverty Awareness Month](#)

FEATURED CELEBRATION

## National Poverty Awareness Month

THEME: FIGHT FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

Poverty Awareness Month raises awareness and calls attention to the growing problem of poverty in the United States.

Mental Wellness Month

- 1 New Year's Day *(Closed for Observance)*
- 4 UN [World Braille Day](#)
- 13 Korean American Day
- 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day *(Closed for Observance)*
- 27 International Day of Commemoration in Memory of Victims of the Holocaust
- 29 Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year)

## MARCH

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Helpful Links:

[National Women's History Alliance](#)  
[Influential Women in Education](#)  
[38 Inspiring Women Who Changed the World](#)

FEATURED CELEBRATION

## National Women's History Month

THEME: MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER! WOMEN EDUCATING & INSPIRING GENERATIONS

Celebrate the collective strength and influence of women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership. Through their efforts, they have served as an inspiration for all generations — both past and present.

- Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
- Gender Equality Month
- 8 International Women's Day
- 9 Billy Frank Jr. Day (WA State)
- 10 Harriet Tubman's Birthday (Observed)
- 19 International Read to Me Day
- 21 World Down Syndrome Day
- 31 Transgender Day of Visibility
- 31 César Chavez Day

## FEBRUARY

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Helpful Links:

[Asalh.org/black-history-themes](#)  
[Honoring Black Labor Leaders](#)  
[African-American's Rights | Unions Making History in America](#)  
[Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project](#)

FEATURED CELEBRATION

## Black History Month

THEME: AFRICAN AMERICANS AND LABOR

Black people's work has been transformational throughout the U.S., Africa, and the Diaspora. The 2025 Black History Month theme, "African Americans and Labor," sets out to highlight and celebrate the potent impact of this work.

- 1 National Freedom Day
- 1 [Take Your Child to the Library Day](#)
- 4 Rosa Parks' Birthday
- 14 Frederick Douglass' Birthday (Observed)
- 15 Susan B. Anthony's Birthday
- 17 Presidents Day *(Closed for Observance)*
- 20 World Day of Social Justice – U.N

## APRIL

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Helpful Links:

[United Nations Autism Awareness](#)  
[Autism Experience](#)  
[DSHS Autism Awareness \(WA\)](#)

FEATURED CELEBRATION

## National Autism Awareness Month

National Autism Awareness Month raises awareness for autism and Asperger's syndrome during April. Autism is a complex brain disorder that often inhibits a person's ability to communicate, respond to surroundings, and form relationships with others.

- National Arab-American Heritage Month
- Deaf History Month
- [National Library Week April 6 - 23](#)
- 1 Library Giving Day
- 2 World Autism Acceptance Day
- 8 National Library Worker's Day
- 10 Delores Huerta Day
- 22 Earth Day
- 30 [Día \(Children's Day/Book Day\)](#)

## MAY

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Month

Haitian Heritage Month

Jewish American Heritage Month

Mental Health Awareness Month

19 Malcolm X's Birthday

26 Memorial Day (Closed for Observance)

Helpful Links:

[Asianpacificheritage.gov](http://Asianpacificheritage.gov)

[AANHPI Resources](#)

[ANHPI Heritage Month \(WA\)](#)

## JULY

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### Disability Pride Month

Disability Pride Month celebrates the achievements & contributions of people with disabilities.

4 Independence Day (Closed for Observance)

14 International Non-Binary People's Day

25 [Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act \(Passage\)](#)

Helpful Links:

[What is Disability Pride?](#)

[ALA Disability Pride Month Resources](#)

[ALA Serving Patrons with Disabilities in Small & Rural Libraries](#)

## JUNE

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### LGBTQIA+ Pride Month

Caribbean American Heritage Month

12 [Loving Day](#)

19 Juneteenth (Closed for Observance)

20 World Refugee Day

23 Women in Engineering Day

Helpful Links:

[Pride Pacific Northwest](#)

[PFLAG.org](http://PFLAG.org)

[GLSEN \(Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Educational Network\)](#)

## AUGUST

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### World Indigenous Peoples' Day

(MONTH LONG CELEBRATION)

9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People

21 Senior Citizens Day

26 Women's Equality Day

Helpful Links:

[UN Background on World Indigenous Peoples' Day](#)

[Countries with Large Populations of Indigenous Peoples](#)

## SEPTEMBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### Hispanic American Heritage Month

(Sep 15 – Oct 15)

#### Library Card Sign-up Month

- 1 Labor Day *(Closed for Observance)*
- 6 Read a Book Day
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 21 [Banned Books Week](#)

Helpful Links:

- [WA State Commission on Hispanic Affairs](#)
- [Hispanic Heritage Month](#)
- [Cielo](#)

## NOVEMBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### Native American Heritage Month

16–22 [National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness](#)

- 11 Veterans Day *(Closed for Observance)*
- 20 International Transgender Day of Remembrance
- 27 Thanksgiving *(Closed for Observance)*
- 28 Native American Heritage Day *(Closed for Observance)*

Helpful Links:

- [LOC Native American Heritage Resources & Exhibits](#)
- [12 Women to Know for NAHM](#)
- [Tribes of Washington \(WA\)](#)

## OCTOBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### Dyslexia Awareness Month

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Filipino American History Month

Girls Lead STEM Month

- 10 [World Mental Health Day](#)
- 13 Indigenous Peoples' Day
- 15 [International Pronouns Day](#)

Helpful Links:

- [Dyslexia Awareness Resources for Kids](#)
- [6 Tips for Dyslexia Awareness Month](#)
- [OSPI About Dyslexia \(WA\)](#)

## DECEMBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

### Universal Human Rights Month

People around the world are encouraged to stand up for equality, justice, and the dignity of all people. People are also encouraged to remember and celebrate those who have fought for human rights in the past, and to consider how they can continue to fight for them today.

- 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 10 [International Human Rights Day](#)
- 24 Christmas Eve *(Closed for Observance)*
- 25 Christmas Day *(Closed for Observance)*

Helpful Links:

- [Human Rights Watch](#)
- [Human Rights Commission \(WA\)](#)
- [Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights](#)

