



CELEBRATIONS **CALENDAR**

Expectations for Staff **2026**



Welcome to Timberland Regional Library 2026 Celebrations Calendar!

The 2026 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.
- Create a social media post highlighting library resources about the month, any local organizations, business, or activities connected to the celebration month, or featuring content that positively celebrates the community or group being celebrated.
- 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: Any ONE of the above suggested recommendations fulfills the branch requirements regarding Celebrations; however, branches are welcome to do more than one of the above or to celebrate the featured Celebration AS WELL AS any other celebrations listed during the month.

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

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:

[America Counts: Stories About Poverty from Census Bureau](#)

[Poverty USA](#)

FEBRUARY

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Helpful Links:

[ASALH – The Founders of Black History Month](#)

[Advancing Racial Equity & Justics – American Progress](#)

[Black Women Heroes from WA State History - YWCA](#)

FEATURED CELEBRATION

National Poverty Awareness Month

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

1 New Year’s Day *(Closed for Observance)*

4 UN [World Braille Day](#)

13 Korean American Day

19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day *(Closed for Observance)*

20 National Day of Racial Healing

27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day

FEATURED CELEBRATION

Black History Month

THEME: A CENTURY OF BLACK HISTORY COMMEMORATIONS

The 2026 Black History Month theme, “A Century of Black History Commemorations” recognizes this milestone and examines the journey of Black people from 1926 to now.

1 National Freedom Day

4 Rosa Parks’ Birthday

7 [Take Your Child to the Library Day](#)

14 Frederick Douglass’ Birthday (Observed)

16 Presidents Day *(Closed for Observance)*

17 Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year)

20 World Day of Social Justice – U.N

MARCH

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Helpful Links:

[National Women’s History Alliance](#)

[38 Inspiring Women Who Changed the World](#)

[Women and Seattle’s Civil Rights History](#)

APRIL

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Helpful Links:

[United Nations Autism Awareness](#)

[Autism Experience](#)

FEATURED CELEBRATION

National Women’s History Month

[Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month](#)

Gender Equality Month

8 International Women’s Day

9 [Billy Frank Jr. Day \(WA State\)](#)

10 Harriet Tubman Day

19 International Read to Me Day

21 World Down Syndrome Day

31 [Transgender Day of Visibility](#)

31 César Chavez Day

FEATURED CELEBRATION

Autism Acceptance Month

Autism Acceptance Month celebrates and honors the experiences and identities of Autistic individuals. It emphasizes understanding, inclusion, and support, moving beyond awareness towards meaningful acceptance.

[National Arab-American Heritage Month](#)

[Deaf History Month](#)

[National Library Week April 19 - 25](#)

1 Library Giving Day

2 World Autism Acceptance Day

10 Delores Huerta Day

14 National Library Worker’s Day

22 Earth Day

30 [El día de los niños/El día de los libros \(Children’s Day/Book Day\)](#)

MAY

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

Mental Health Awareness Month

[Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander \(AANHPI\) Month](#)

Haitian Heritage Month

[Jewish American Heritage Month](#)

19 Malcolm X’s Birthday

25 Memorial Day *(Closed for Observance)*

Helpful Links:

[NAMI Mental Health Awareness Month](#)

[Mental Health America](#)

[National Institute of Mental Health](#)

JUNE

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

LGBTQIA+ Pride Month & National Immigrant Heritage Month

This month TRL will feature BOTH Pride Month and National Immigrant Heritage Month. Libraries are encouraged to do activities celebrating either or both of the themes.

[Caribbean American Heritage Month](#)

Alzheimer’s & Brain Awareness Month

12 [Loving Day](#)

19 [Juneteenth](#) *(Closed for Observance)*

20 World Refugee Day

23 Women in Engineering Day

[American Immigration Council](#)

[Immigrant Resources & Immediate Support](#)

[NW Immigrant Rights Project](#)

[WA Immigrant Solidary Network](#)

Helpful Links:

[Pride Pacific Northwest](#)

[PFLAG.org](#)

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

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](#)

AUGUST

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

Senior Citizens Day (MONTH LONG CELEBRATION)

TRL celebrates Senior Citizens month to raise awareness about issues that affect senior citizens and their quality of life, and to highlight resources to support them.

9 [International Day of the World’s Indigenous People](#)

21 Senior Citizens Day

26 Women’s Equality Day

Helpful Links:

[National Council on Aging](#)

[WA.gov Senior Services](#)

[WA State Council on Aging](#)

SEPTEMBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

Hispanic American Heritage Month

(Sep 15 – Oct 15)

Library Card Sign-up Month

- 6 National Read a Book Day
- 7 Labor Day (Closed for Observance)
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 27 Banned Books Week

Helpful Links:

[Hispanic Community Resources](#)

[Cielo](#)

[Smithsonian Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

NOVEMBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

Native American Heritage Month

14 - 22 [National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness](#)

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

Helpful Links:

[LOC Native American Heritage Resources & Exhibits](#)

[Native Americans in the PNW](#)

[12 Women to Know for NAHM](#)

[Tribes of Washington \(WA\)](#)

OCTOBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

Filipino-American History Month

- [Dyslexia Awareness Month](#)
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month
- Girls Lead STEM Month
- 10 [World Mental Health Day](#)
 - 13 Indigenous Peoples’ Day
 - 15 [International Pronouns Day](#)

Helpful Links:

[Filipino American National History Society](#)

[Filipino American Pioneers \(Kitsap Museum\)](#)

[Filipino Community of Seattle](#)

[National Federation of Filipino American Associations](#)

DECEMBER

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FEATURED CELEBRATION

Universal Human Rights Month

During 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](#)

January	February	March
April	May	June
July	August	September
October	November	December