

THE READ

Fall 2018 | Issue 4



78

A CENTER ZINE

Need a badass in your life?
We've got you / p. 5

Things We're Loving is back! / p.
27

Who is Gay Johnson McDougall
Anyway? / p. 2



TAKING OVER THE WORLD

THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE IS NAMED FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LEADER AND AGNES SCOTT ALUMNA, GAY JOHNSON MCDUGALL '69X, 'H10.

GAY JOHNSON MCDOUGALL



CENTER FOR GLOBAL DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



THE FIRST BLACK STUDENT
TO INTEGRATE AGNES SCOTT
COLLEGE IN 1965

our namesake

McDougall served as the first United Nations Independent Expert on Minority Issues from 2005 through 2011. She was executive director of the international NGO Global Rights from 1994 through 2006.

Among her many other international roles, from 1997- 2001 she served as an Independent Expert on the UN treaty body that oversees compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; she played a leadership role in the UN Third World Conference against Racism; and she was Special Rapporteur on the issue of systematic rape and sexual slavery practices in armed conflict for the UN Sub-Commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (1995-1999).

She was one of five international members of the South African governmental body established through the multi-party negotiations to set policy and administer the country's first democratic, non-racial elections in 1994, resulting in the election of President Nelson Mandela and the transition from apartheid. For 14 years prior to that appointment, she had served as Director of the Southern Africa Project of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. In that capacity, she worked with South African lawyers to secure the release of thousands of political prisoners from jail.

Among her recent academic roles have been the Mulligan Distinguished Visiting Professor in International Law at Fordham Law School (2013); and the Robert Drinan Visiting Professor in Human Rights at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C. (2011-2012).

In 1999 she was a recipient of the coveted MacArthur "Genius" Award. She has also received the Butcher Medal of the American Society of International Law for outstanding contributions to human rights law and the Thurgood Marshall Lifetime Achievement Award from the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

She received a J.D. from Yale Law School and an LL.M. from the London School of Economics and Political Science. She has Honorary Doctor of Law degrees from Georgetown University Law Center, the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa), the School of Law of the City University of New York and Agnes Scott College.



from the center

We've made it another year,
congratulations Scotties!

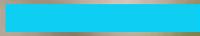
From The Center, we want to thank you for your continued support through our transition. We've welcomed Tiffany Del Valle on board alongside four new coordinators! We look forward to continuing to build our team!

In regards to [The Read](#): A Center Zine, we are back! Moving forward The Read will be completely digital going forward! Interested in contributing? Email diversity@agnesscott.edu.

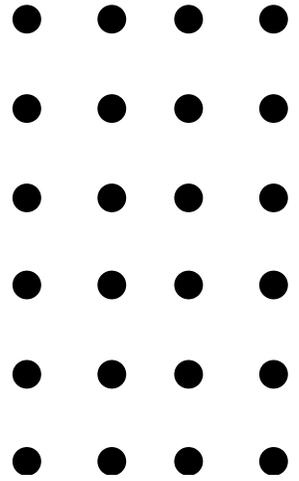
Many thanks to the coordinators who have worked tremendously on this zine: Ha Vu, Prashamsa Rimel, Sam Levan, Pema Lama, Acacia Salisbury, Syedha Noreenia, and Jordan Keesler.

LatinX

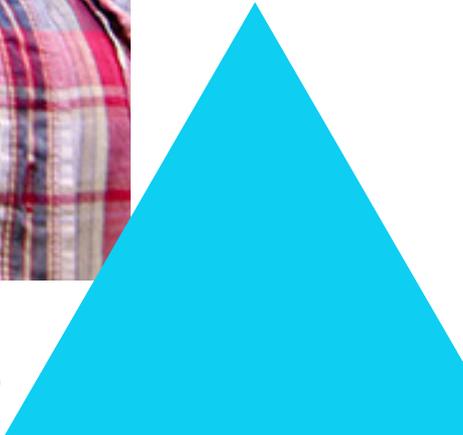
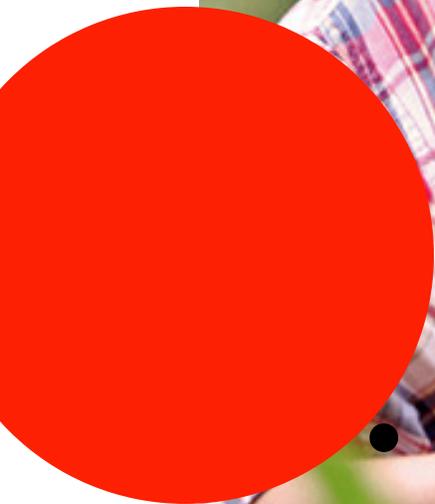
HERITAGE



MONTH

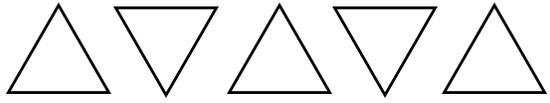


SEPTEMBER
15-
OCTOBER
15



BERTA CÁCERES
HONDURAN ACTIVIST

BERTA CÁCERES



"Berta Cáceres, (Berta Isabel Cáceres Flores), Honduran activist (born March 4, 1973?, La Esperanza, Hond.—died March 3, 2016, La Esperanza), cofounded (1993) the National Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH) and devoted 10 years to a campaign to stop the construction of the Agua Zarca Dam on the Gualcarque River in the Rio Blanco area of Honduras, work for which she was awarded a 2015 Goldman Environmental Prize. Cáceres, a member of the indigenous Lenca people, was the daughter of a midwife and social activist. She helped establish COPINH to help Lenca communities resist illegal logging and other such threats to homes and societies. In 2006 people of the Rio Blanco area asked COPINH for help, as dam construction had begun without the legally required



notice on a river that was economically and spiritually important for the populace around it. Cáceres responded by filing complaints with government authorities and with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and by appealing to businesses that were funding the dam to withdraw support. Those efforts proved unsuccessful, however, and in 2013 Cáceres organized a human blockade of the road to access the construction site. The blockade stayed in

place for more than a year, and protests continued to take place thereafter. Criminal charges were filed against Cáceres, and she and other activists were routinely threatened with kidnap and murder. After one protest leader was killed in 2013, Sinohydro, the Chinese partner of the Honduran company building the Agua Zarca Dam, withdrew from the project, and the International Finance Corporation later withdrew its support. Cáceres was murdered in her home."

TRANSGENDER WEEK OF AWARENESS

NOVEMBER
13 - 17



Check out more by following this link
for "Beyond The Surface: Tiq Milan"

**Transgender Week of
Awareness aims to raise
the visibility of
transgender and gender
non-conforming people,
and address the issues
the community faces.**



“It’s more and more people understanding who we are, what we’re about, and that simply understanding we have a right to exist on this planet just like everyone else”

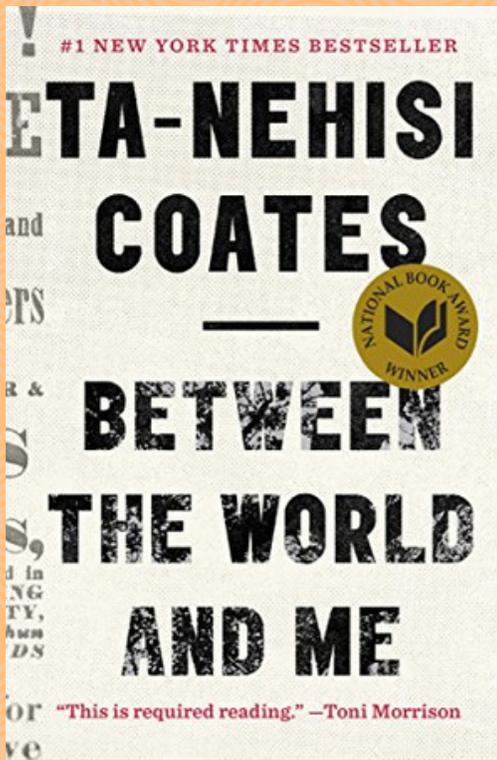
GWENDOLYN ANN SMITH

The Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

SHARE YOUR LOVE OF READING

BOOKS WE ARE LOVING





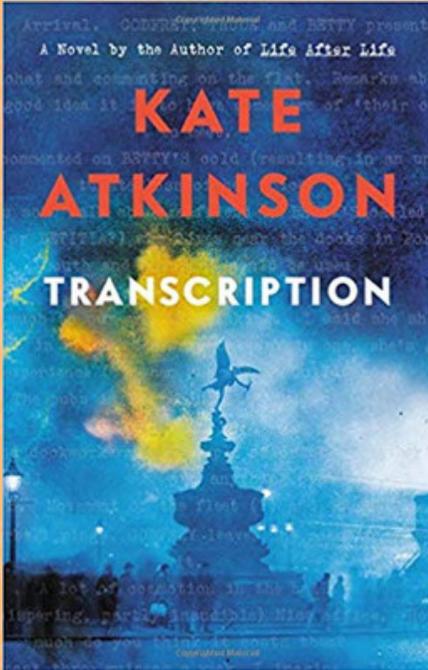
Between the World and Me - Ta-Nehisi Coates

Written as a letter to his teenage son, Coates' autobiographical account reveals the United States' spurious definition of "race" that results in prejudices and maltreatment towards black men and women. With powerful, personal narratives, *Between the World and Me* elucidates the past, confronts the present, and envision an enlightening path to the future.

The Hate You Give - Angie Thomas

This New York Times bestseller revolves around Starr Carter, a black girl straddling between her poor neighborhood and her affluent private school. She participates in activism after witnessing the police shooting of a childhood friend followed by her fight against injustice among her community. Inspired by the 2009 police shooting of Oscar Grant, Angie Thomas addresses the police brutality, racism, and the failure of the legal system of the United States.





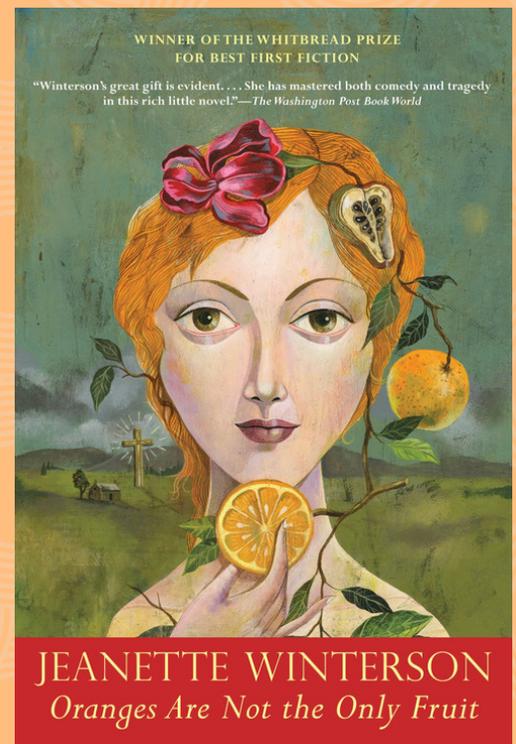
Transcription - Kate Atkinson

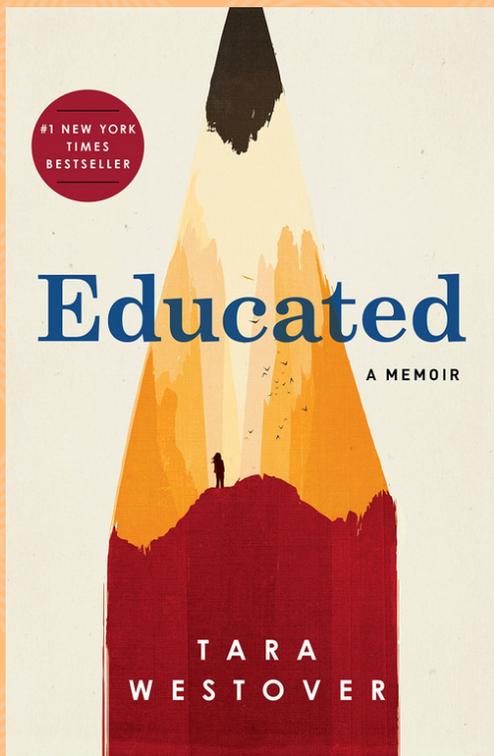
This latest Kate Atkinson's British novel reveals the thrill, danger, and consequences of the world of espionage in wartime London. The story of Juliet Armstrong, a reluctant recruit of the British MI5 task force, highlights the introspection of female identity and insights into women's work and lives in a male-dominant society.



Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit - Jeanette Winterson

Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit is a semi-autobiography about Jeanette, who is adopted by evangelists from the Pentecostal Church and believes she will become a missionary. As an adolescent, Jeanette is attracted to another girl and condemned by other religious members. The book portrays transition from youth to adulthood, complex family relationships, same sex relationships, and religion in the exploration of the power of love.

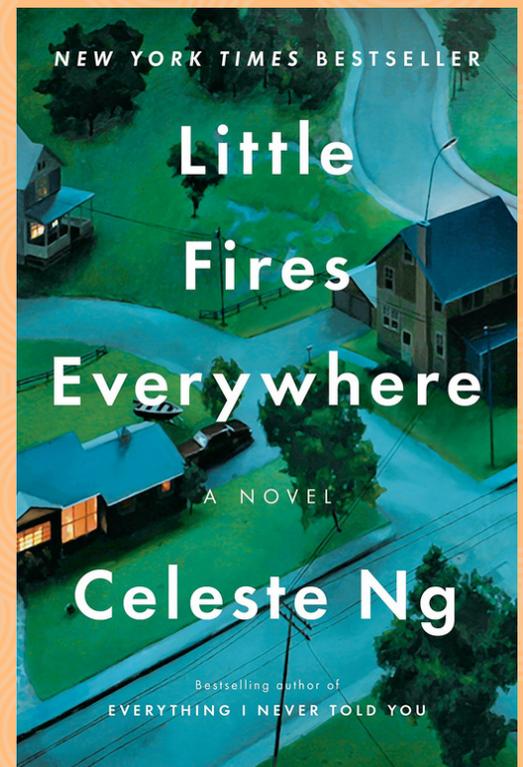




Educated is an astounding memoir of Westover herself - born to a survivalist family who distrusted medical treatment and schools - and her diversion from her family's beliefs to acquire education and her own identity affirmation. Her story entails the essence of education, which is to explore different perspectives of life and the ability to embrace them all.



This astounding novel from the bestselling author Celeste Ng depicts the clash between the rule-binding Richardson family and the newly arrived mother and daughter that may disrupt the order of the Cleveland suburban community. The story examines the importance of family, the prevalence of class and status quo, and the risk of subscribing to rigid principles to delude oneself into a utopia.



<https://www.newyorker.com/recommends/read/educated-by-tara-westover>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/25/books/review/little-fires-everywhere-celeste-ng.html>

RELIGIOUS

Name(s)	Date(s)	Faith
Lughnassad	August 1	Paganism
Eid al Adha	August 21-22	Islam
Raksha Bandhan	August 26	Hinduism
Krishna Janmashtami	September 2	Hinduism
Rosh Hashannah	September 9-11	Judaism
Hijra	September 11-12	Islam
Ganesh Chaturthi	September 13	Hinduism
Yom Kippur	September 18-19	Judaism
Ashura	September 20-21	Islam
Mabon	September 22	Paganism
Sukkot	September 23-30	Judaism
Shemini Atzeret	September 30-October 2	Judaism
Simchat Torah	October 1-2	Judaism
Navaratri	October 9-18	Hinduism
Dasara /Dashain	October 19	Hinduism
Birth of the Báb	November 8-9	Bahá'í
Samhain	October 31	Paganism



CALENDAR

Name(s)

Date(s)

Faith

Diwali

November 7

Hinduism

Jain New Year

November 8

Jainism

Vikram New Year

November 8

Hinduism

Birth of Baha'u'llah

November 9-10

Bahá'í

Mawlid an Nabi

November 20-21

Islam

Guru Nanak DevSahib

November 23

Sikh

Day of the Covenant

November 25-26

Baha'i

Ascension of 'Abdu'l Baha

November 27

Baha'i

Hanukkah

December 2-10

Judaism

Rohatsu

January 24

Buddhist

Yule

December 22

Paganism

Zarathosht Diso

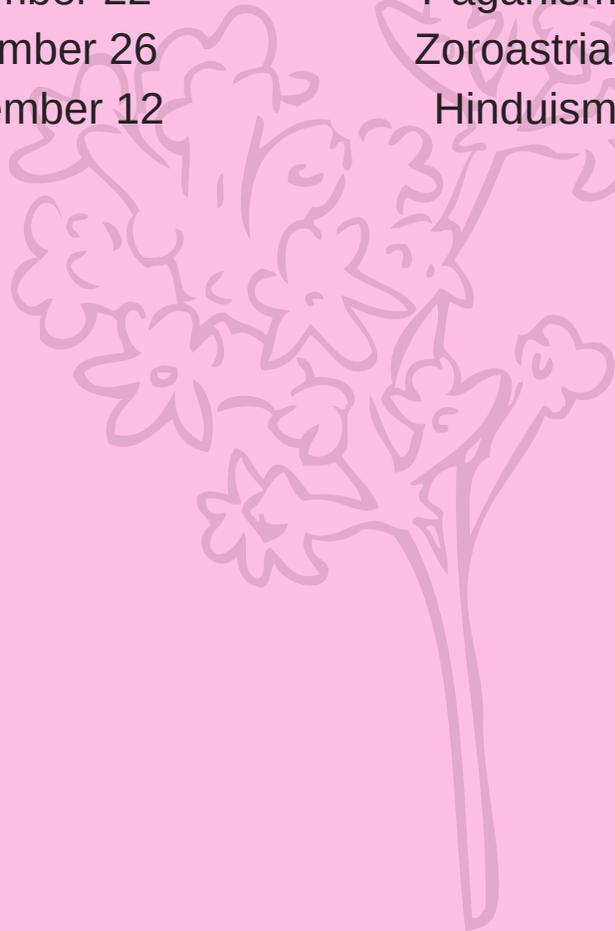
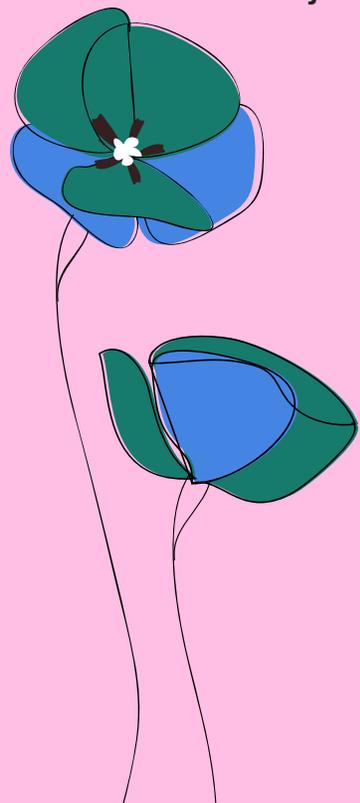
December 26

Zoroastrian

Teej

September 12

Hinduism



POETRY WE LIKE

Content Warning: This content mentions physical assault and/or violence which may be disturbing to some readers. Reader discretion is advised.

ALL THE DEAD BOYS LOOK LIKE ME CHRISTOPHER SOTO

Last time I saw myself die is when police killed Jessie Hernandez
A 17 year old brown queer // who was sleeping in their car
Yesterday I saw myself die again // Fifty times I died in Orlando // &
I remember reading // Dr. José Esteban Muñoz before he passed
I was studying at NYU // where he was teaching // where he wrote shit
That made me feel like a queer brown survival was possible // But he didn't
Survive & now // on the dancefloor // in the restroom // on the news // in my chest
There are another fifty bodies that look like mine // & are
Dead // & I've been marching for Black Lives & talking about police brutality
Against Native communities too // for years now // but this morning
I feel it // I really feel it again // How can we imagine ourselves // We being black native
Today // Brown people // How can we imagine ourselves
When All the Dead Boys Look Like Us? // Once I asked my nephew where he wanted
To go to College // What career he would like // as if
The whole world was his for the choosing // Once he answered me without fearing
Tombstones or cages or the hands from a father // The hands of my lover
Yesterday praised my whole body // Made angels from my lips // Ave Maria
Full of Grace // He propped me up like the roof of a cathedral // in NYC
Before we opened the news & read // & read about people who think two brown queers
Can't build cathedrals // only cemeteries // & each time we kiss
A funeral plot opens // In the bedroom I accept his kiss // & I lose my reflection
I'm tired of writing this poem // but I want to say one last word about
Yesterday // my father called // I heard him cry for only the second time in my life
He sounded like he loved me // it's something I'm rarely able to hear
& I hope // if anything // his sound is what my body remembers first.

CHRISTOPHER SOTO IS A POET BASED IN BROOKLYN. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF SAD GIRL POEMS, COFOUNDER OF THE UNDOCUPOETS CAMPAIGN, AND EDITOR OF NEPANTLA: A JOURNAL DEDICATED TO QUEER POETS OF COLOR.

SOURCE: [POETS.ORG/CHRISTOPHERSOTO](https://poets.org/christophersoto)

DIWALI



Diwali, or the Festival of Lights is a Hindu festival celebrated in the Indian subcontinent. Diwali symbolises the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance." Celebrants will prepare by cleaning, and decorating their homes. During the climax of the festival, they wear their finest clothes, light their homes with diyas (lamps and candles), offer prayers to Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity, light fireworks, host family feasts, and share gifts.

Some other faiths in India also celebrate their respective festivals alongside Diwali. The Jains observe their own Diwali, which marks the final liberation of Mahavira, the Sikhs celebrate Bandi Chhor Divas while Newar Buddhists, unlike other Buddhists, celebrate Diwali by worshiping Lakshmi. The festival of Diwali is an official holiday in Fiji, Guyana, India, Malaysia (except Sarawak) Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica.

Dashain

Dashain is the longest and the most important festival of Nepal. Generally Dashain falls in late September to mid October, right after the monsoon season in Nepal. Dashain gets many different nick names as Dasara, Bada Dashain, Vijaya Dashain, Durga Puja. Dashain is a festival of Victory over Demons. Dashain tika begins from the oldest person in your family giving tika to the youngest then the second youngest in the family and so on. Faith, hope, inspiration and blessings, all come alive in Dashain.



Dashain Celebration at Agnes

AGNES
SCOTT
COLLEGE

THE GAY JOHNSON
MCDOUGALL CENTER
FOR GLOBAL DIVERSITY
AND INCLUSION

Indigenous People's Day

Indigenous Peoples Day serves as a celebration and highlights Indigenous communities. In lieu of Columbus Day, Indigenous Peoples Day has become a way to respect and honor the original communities and cultures of this land.

The idea of replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day was born in 1977, at a U.N.-sponsored conference in Geneva, Switzerland, on discrimination against indigenous populations in the Americas.



Fourteen years later, activists in Berkeley, CA, convinced the Berkeley City Council to declare October 12 a "Day of Solidarity with Indigenous People."



Source: <http://fortune.com/2018/10/07/what-is-indigenous-peoples-day/> and <https://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod/indigenous-day>



Teej is a religious, social, and cultural festival celebrated by Hindu Women in Nepal during the second week of September.. Leading up to the day of Teej, women get together and celebrate it by cooking, eating, dancing and singing songs together.

The day of Teej, married women fast for a long life of their husband and unmarried women fast to get a good husband. While this part of the festival speaks volumes about the patriarchal society in Nepal, Teej is also a time where women are in solidarity through their collective observance of festival.

TEEJ

BYE, SECTION 377

SECTION 377 OF THE INDIAN PENAL CODE IS A SECTION INTRODUCED IN 1861 DURING THE BRITISH RULE OF INDIA. MODELLED ON THE BUGGERY ACT OF 1533, IT IS USED TO CRIMINALIZE SEXUAL ACTIVITIES "AGAINST THE ORDER OF NATURE". ON SEPT. 6TH, IN A HISTORIC WIN FOR THE LGBTQI+ COMMUNITY IN INDIA, THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA HAS SCRAPPED SECTION 377 OF THE INDIAN PENAL CODE AND MADE CONSENSUAL, HOMOSEXUAL SEX IN PRIVATE LEGAL.

THE SUPREME COURT SAID: "THE RIGHT TO LIVE WITH DIGNITY HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED. SEXUAL ORIENTATION IS A NATURAL PHENOMENON DETERMINED BY BIOLOGY AND SCIENCE. ANY DISCRIMINATION ON THIS BASIS IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL."

SOURCE: QZ.COM

Parmesh Shahani @pameshs · Sep 6, 2018
I don't see the point of all the TV channels in India having 2 mandatory bigots "opposing" #LGBTQIA activists in the build up to the #Section377 #supremecourt verdict. Our human rights are not something you create these false "debates" about.

Parmesh Shahani @pameshs
Dear Indian media, please treat #section377 and its removal as something that was long overdue and not something that you STILL need to have debates about. Sensationalising and giving airtime to bigots making the same old tired points is tedious and unproductive.

1:34 AM - Sep 6, 2018
836 270 people are talking about this

Gaurav Gogoi @GauravGogoiAsm
As Supreme Court abolishes #Sec377, one pauses to reflect on the hundreds of activists, individuals, artists, lawyers who have sacrificed so much to achieve this victory. Thank you to the Hon'ble Supreme Court for this moment. But the fight is not over -1
2:34 AM - Sep 6, 2018
267 77 people are talking about this

Shahmir Sanni Retweeted
Shahmir Sanni @shahmiruk · Sep 6
From gay Sufi lovers to Hindu transgender women. India's sexual fluidity was always a dirty, barbaric concept to its western invaders and it is crucial for the LGBTQ community here in the west to understand this. This isn't India becoming 'westernised'. It's India decolonising.
73 3.8K 7.9K

#SEC377

GROUNDBREAKING FIRSTS FROM THE MIDTERM ELECTIONS

THE RESULTS OF THE 2018 MIDTERM ELECTION USHERED IN ONE OF THE MOST DIVERSE GROUPS OF POLITICIANS IN AMERICAN HISTORY, BRINGING IN A WAVE OF GOVERNORS, SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES WHO WILL BREAK DECADES OR EVEN CENTURIES-LONG BARRIERS WHEN THEY ARE SWORN IN. MANY CANDIDATES BECAME THE FIRST PERSON OF THEIR GENDER, RACE, ETHNICITY OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION TO BE ELECTED TO THEIR POSITIONS IN THE COUNTRY. HERE THEY ARE.



ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ:
AMERICA'S YOUNGEST WOMAN
EVER ELECTED TO CONGRESS



JARED POLIS: THE FIRST
OPENLY GAY MAN ELECTED
GOVERNOR



SHARICE DAVIDS
AMERICA'S FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN IN CONGRESS



DEB HAALAND



RASHIDA TLAIB
AMERICA'S FIRST MUSLIM WOMEN IN CONGRESS



ILHAN OMAR

National Native American Heritage Month

What is National Native American Heritage Month?

National Native American Heritage Month is a specific month dedicated to the history, culture, achievements, contributions and sacrifice of the indigenous people – the first inhabitants of the United States of America. It is also to remind the nation that native communities are still vibrant and active in our country.

She says by Luci Tapahonso

The cool October night, and his tall gray hat
throws sharp shadows on the ground.

Somewhere west of the black volcanoes,
dogs are barking at something no one else can see.

His voice a white cloud,
plumes of chimney smoke suspended in the dark.

Later we are dancing in the living room,
his hand warm on the small of my back.

It is music that doesn't change.

The ground outside is frozen,
trees glisten with moon frost.

The night is a careful abandonment of other voices,
his girlfriend's outburst brimming at the edge of the morning,
and I think I have aged so.

His warm hands and my own laugh are all we share in this other life
strung together by missing years and dry desert evenings.

Tomorrow the thin ice on black weeds will shimmer in the sun,
and the horses wait for him.

At his house around noon, thin strands of icicles drop
to the ground in silence.

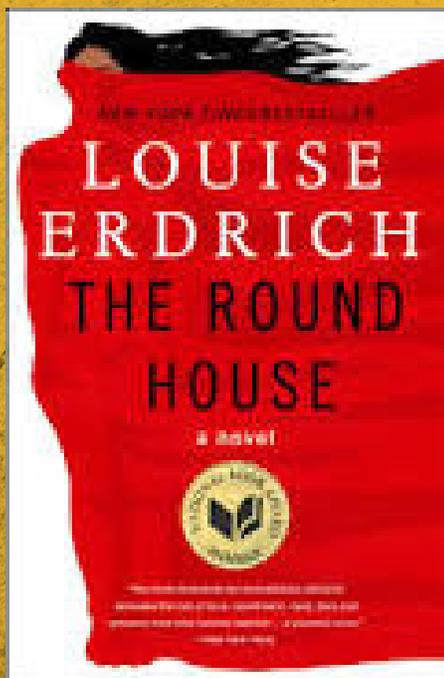
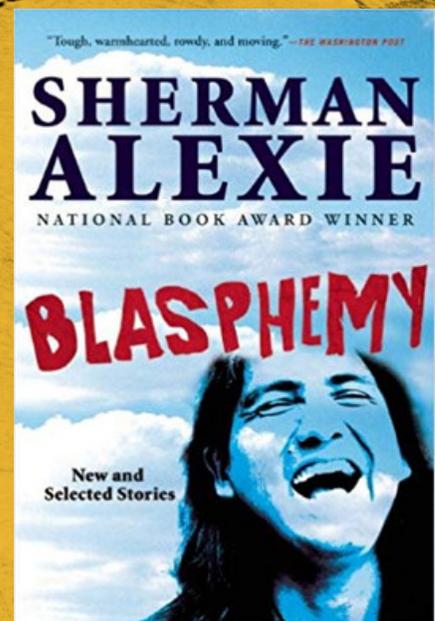
Early Saturday, the appaloosa runs free near Moenkopi.
The dog yips, yips alongside.

Did you know?

The space we occupy today in Decatur, Georgia was originally Muscogee/Creek territory. Check out these interactive maps to view all indigenous territories. <https://native-land.ca/> and <https://www.census.gov/tribal/>. Other tribes included the Apalachee, Choctaw, Cherokee, Hitchiti, Oconee, Miccosukee, Timucua, Yamasee, Guale, and the Yucci.

Blasphemy - Sherman Alexie

A bold and irreverent observer of life among Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest, the daring, versatile, funny, and outrageous Alexie showcases all his talents in his newest collection, Blasphemy, where he unites fifteen beloved classics with fifteen new stories in one sweeping anthology for devoted fans and first-time readers.



The Round House - Louise Erdrich

The revered novelist, Louise Erdrich, returns after her bestselling *The Plague of Doves* with *The Round House* which transports us to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. It is an exquisite story about a boy reaching his manhood and his journey to seek justice following a crime that forever changes his family. *The Round House* is a moving and remarkable novel of culture, history, and family.

National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month



September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month—a time to share resources and stories in an effort to shed light on this stigmatized topic. We use this month to raise awareness about suicidal ideation, connect people with resources, and work to remove stigma around mental health issues.

Ways to support others:

- Check in with others often and approach them in an authentic and honest way
 - Be sympathetic, understanding, patient and calm
 - Be direct and matter of fact about suicide
- Offer support and resources and help them take care of themselves
- Volunteer with local or national mental health awareness organizations

Resources:

National:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Chat: <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Crisis Text Line: 741-741

NAMI Helpline: <https://www.nami.org/Find-Support/NAMI-HelpLine>

The Trevor Project: (866) 488-7386

Atlanta:

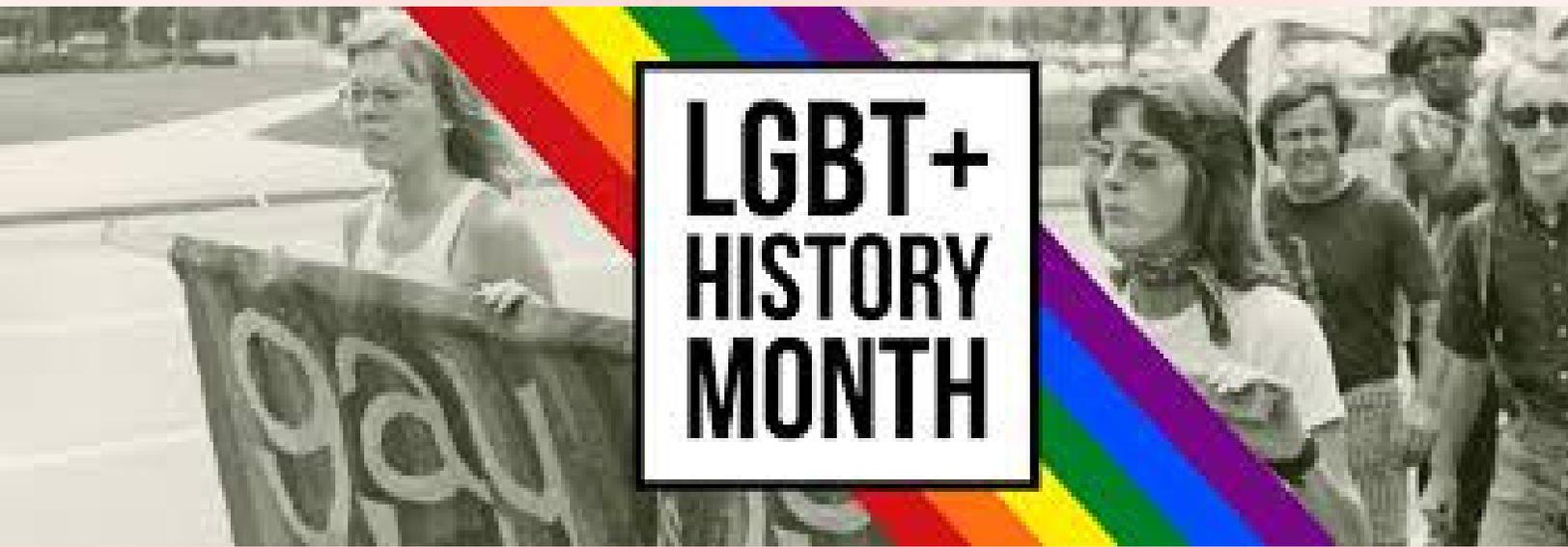
Georgia Crisis and Access Line: 1-800-715-4225

Dekalb Community Service Board Central Access Line: (404) 892-4646

Dekalb Regional Crisis Center: <https://dekcsb.org/crisis/>

NAMI Georgia: <https://namiga.org/> - Helpline: 770-408-0625

Agnes Scott College: Agnes Scott Wellness Center



LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH

LGBT HISTORY MONTH IS A MONTH-LONG ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF LGBTQ+ HISTORY. LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH PROVIDES ROLE MODELS, BUILDS COMMUNITY, AND REPRESENTS A CIVIL RIGHTS STATEMENT ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY. IT ORIGINATED IN THE UNITED STATES, AND WAS FIRST CELEBRATED IN 1994. IT WAS FOUNDED BY MISSOURI HIGH-SCHOOL HISTORY TEACHER RODNEY WILSON. WILSON ORIGINATED THE IDEA, SERVED AS FOUNDER ON THE FIRST COORDINATING COMMITTEE, AND CHOSE OCTOBER AS THE MONTH OF CELEBRATION. OCTOBER WAS CHOSEN BECAUSE NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY ALREADY WAS ESTABLISHED AS A WIDELY KNOWN EVENT, ON OCTOBER 11. DURING THE EARLY YEARS, THE CELEBRATION WAS LARGELY MARKED BY A CALL TO ACTION AND COMMEMORATION. BUT SINCE THEN, LGBT HISTORY MONTH HAS BLOSSOMED INTO A NATIONAL COORDINATED EFFORT TO HIGHLIGHT EXEMPLARY ROLE MODELS FROM THE LGBT COMMUNITY.

SOURCE: WWW.GLAAD.ORG/BLOG/CELEBRATE-LGBT-HISTORY-MONTH



World Aids Day

The Story Behind it All



In June of 1987, a small group of strangers gathered in a San Francisco storefront to document the lives they feared history would neglect. Their goal was to create a memorial for those who had died of AIDS, and to thereby help people understand the devastating impact of the disease. This meeting of devoted friends and lovers served as the foundation of the **NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt** (shown in above picture).

Today, the Quilt is a powerful visual reminder of the AIDS pandemic. More than 48,000 individual 3-by-6-foot memorial panels — most commemorating the life of someone who has died of AIDS — have been sewn together by friends, lovers and family members to celebrate World AIDS Day.

This celebration is held on the 1st December each year and is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, honor those who have passed, and show their support for the 100,000 people living with HIV who combat ignorance, discrimination, and their limitless opportunities.

Sources:

<https://www.worldaidsday.org/campaign/lets-end-it>

<https://www.poz.com/event/world-aids-day-2018>

<http://www.aidsquilt.org/about/the-aids-memorial-quilt>

Do You Want to Get Involved?

<https://www.aidatlanta.org/page.aspx?pid=428>

<https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/?>

[l=Atlanta%2C%20GA%2030301&k=hiv+aids&searchOpps=](https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/?l=Atlanta%2C%20GA%2030301&k=hiv+aids&searchOpps=)

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH



BACKGROUND

Beginning in 1945, Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of October each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. In 1962, “physically” was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities 25 years later, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (Ndeam) is to educate individuals about the different disabilities' employment



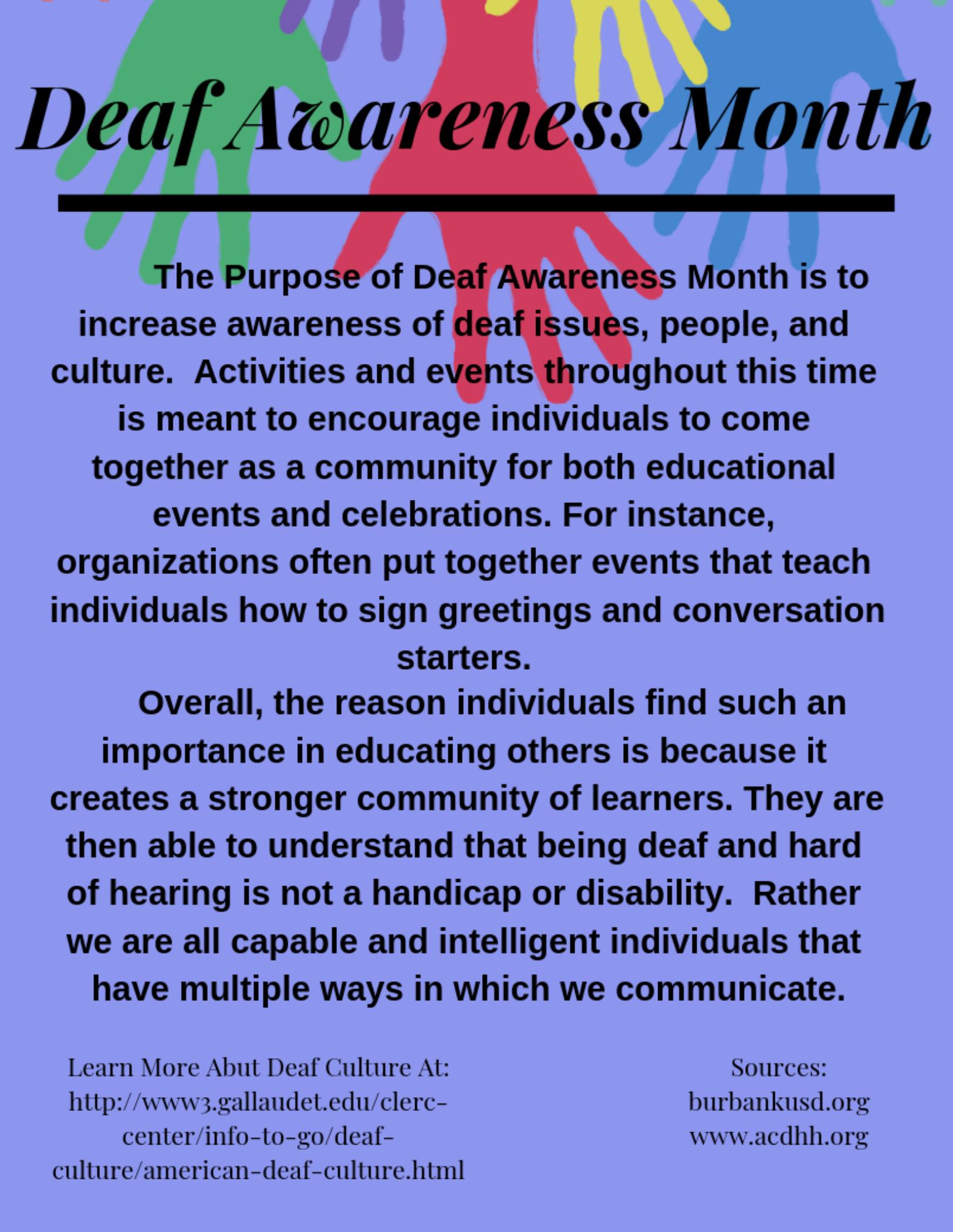
issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with those disabilities.

Held annually, National Disability Employment Awareness Month is led by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. Employers of all sizes and in all industries are encouraged to participate in NDEAM. This is because there is a very strong effort to give people an understanding of their contributions.

**DO YOU WANT TO SUPPORT?
VISIT:
[HTTP://WWW.DOL.GOV/NDEAM](http://www.dol.gov/ndeam)**

SOURCES:

<https://www.loc.gov/accessibility/disability-employment-awareness-month/>
<https://www.whatcanyoudocampaign.org/celebrate-ndeam/>



Deaf Awareness Month

The Purpose of Deaf Awareness Month is to increase awareness of deaf issues, people, and culture. Activities and events throughout this time is meant to encourage individuals to come together as a community for both educational events and celebrations. For instance, organizations often put together events that teach individuals how to sign greetings and conversation starters.

Overall, the reason individuals find such an importance in educating others is because it creates a stronger community of learners. They are then able to understand that being deaf and hard of hearing is not a handicap or disability. Rather we are all capable and intelligent individuals that have multiple ways in which we communicate.

Learn More About Deaf Culture At:
<http://www3.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/info-to-go/deaf-culture/american-deaf-culture.html>

Sources:
burbankusd.org
www.acdhh.org