March 2022 Calendar of Observances

March is Women's History Month

Celebrates the contributions and achievements of women in history. The theme for 2022 is "Providing Healing, Promoting Hope."

Maha Shivaratri

Hindu festival celebrated in honor of the god Shiva.

<u>Shrove Tuesday</u>

The day before Ash Wednesday. Celebrates the week preceding the beginning of Lent.

Lailat Al Miraj

Commemorates the Muhammad's nighttime journey from Mecca to the "Farthest Mosque" in Jerusalem where he ascended to heaven, was purified, and given the instruction for Muslims to pray five times daily.

<u>Ash Wednesday</u>

This day marks the beginning of Lent and is always 46 days before Easter Sunday.

Losar

A celebration of the Tibetan New Year.

International Woman's Day

Celebrates women's achievements and raises awareness against bias.

Purim

Also known as the "Feast of Lots", Purim marks the salvation of Jews of ancient Persia from extermination.

Saint Patrick's Day

A cultural and religious celebration held to celebrate Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland.

Holi

The festival of sharing and love or the festival of colors held in Spring.

Hola Mohalla

An annual event with a martial arts parade historically coinciding with Holi, the Hindu festival of colors.

Vernal Equinox

The date when night and day are nearly the same length. It marks the first day of the season of Spring.

Nowruz

A traditional ancient Iranian festival celebrating the first day of Spring and the Iranian New Year. Also celebrated as New Year's Day in Baha'i tradition.

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Injustice

Call to action to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination worldwide.

<u>Laylat al Bara'at</u>

This day commemorates for Muslims when God descends from heaven and forgives the people of their sins.

Cesar Chavez Day

Honors Mexican American farm worker, labor leader and activist Cesar Chavez (1927-1993) who was a nationally respected voice for social justice.

<u>International Trans Visibility Day</u>

Day of awareness to celebrate the successes of transgender and gender-nonconforming people.

Maryland University of Integrative Health