It’s April! This month’s diversity holidays and awareness days include:

**National Volunteer Month:**

This month, take time to recognize volunteers and help others by volunteering. April 6-13 is National Volunteer Week. In 1974, President Richard Nixon established the first National Volunteer Week with an executive order to celebrate and recognize volunteers. Don’t forget to say “Thanks” and check out your local papers and businesses for local volunteering opportunities.

For more information:

- Americorps
- The Red Cross
- The United Way
- Volunteer Match

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**Autism Awareness Month and Day:** Tuesday, 2

Today is World Autism Awareness Day and April is Autism Awareness Month. Since the 1970s, the Autism Society has worked to promote autism awareness. Autism is the fastest growing, serious developmental disability in the world. As many as 1 in 88 children are now affected. Autism does not discriminate: it touches the lives of every geographic region, every religion, every class, every culture…it can touch everyone, everywhere.

For more information, please visit:

- The Arc of WV
- The Autism Society
- Light It Up Blue

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**Holocaust Remembrance Month and Week:** Sunday, April 27-Sunday, May 4

The Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust (DRVH) was designated as an annual 8-day period by the U.S. Congress to help citizen remember the Holocaust through commemorations and educational programs. As a permanent living memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, the U.S. Congress created the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and
established the Days of Remembrance as the national annual commemoration of the horrific event.

This year’s theme is *Confronting the Holocaust: American Responses.*

For more information, please visit:

- [The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum](#)

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**National Day of Silence:** Friday, 11

The National Day of Silence was established in 1996 as a grassroots project by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). The National Day of Silence is an annual day to protest the bullying, harassment, abuse and discrimination of members of the LGBTQIA (Lesbian women, Gay men, Bisexual people of both genders, Transgender people whose gender identity does not fit into the usual rigid male/female categories, Questioning people who aren’t sure about their sexuality, Intersexual people who have physical features of both sexes and Allies who are heterosexual and support gay rights.) community. On this day, people can take a day-long vow of silence. This silence symbolically represents the silencing of LGBT students and supporters.

For more information, please visit:

- [Day of Silence](#)
- [Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network](#)
Gathering of Nations Powwow: April 24-26

This year marks the 55th Gathering of Nations Powwow. The Gathering of Nations Powwow is an international powwow and is one of the largest powwows in the U.S. Over 500 tribes from the U.S. and Canada travel to the annual meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Powwow features an Indian Traders Market, concerts, the Miss Indian World pageant and competitions ranging from dance (32 categories of dance alone), singing (Northern, Southern and Women’s Back-Up), and drum groups and drummers.

For more information:

- [Gathering of Nations](#)

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Arab-American Heritage:

For more information, please visit:

- [Arab American Heritage Month](#)
- [Arab Heritage Information](#)

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Scottish-American Month:

National Tartan Day: April 6th

For more information, please visit:

- [Historic Scotland](#)
- [Scottish American Society](#)

For more information on diversity and inclusion or to submit diversity and inclusion ideas, articles, and events, please visit [Extension’s Social Justice](#) website or contact me at [Tonya.Michael@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Tonya.Michael@mail.wvu.edu) / 304-293-8948 / 406 Knapp Hall, Morgantown WV 26506.