

# If we could end hatred,

## Imagine what more we could do



### Multi-Cultural, National, and Religious Observances in February

**Month of February**  
**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**  
Celebrates Black History and African  
American culture in the United  
States.

**February 10**  
**LUNAR NEW YEAR**  
On this day Chinese, Korean and  
Vietnamese New Year are  
celebrated.

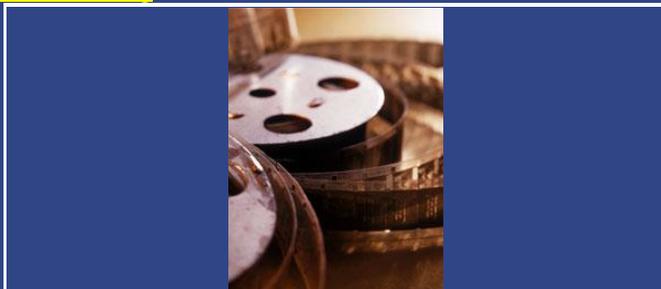
**February 10**  
**RACE RELATIONS DAY**  
The National Council of Churches  
recognizes the importance of  
interracial relations and learning  
today.

**February 12**  
**SHROVE TUESDAY \* Western  
Christian**  
A day of penitence as well as the last  
chance to feast before Lent begins.  
Also known as Mardi Gras.

**February 13**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY \* Western  
Christian**  
The first day of Lent for Western  
Christian churches, a 40-day period  
of spiritual preparation for Easter, not  
counting Sundays.

### Announcing the *No Place for Hate*® Spring Project: Student Video Contest!

Lights, Camera, Action! No Place for Hate is thrilled to unveil its Spring Video Contest! We invite every school to submit a student-created video by **April 5** showing No Place for Hate in action on campus. Students of all ages will compete against others in their age group - Elementary (K-5), Middle (6-8), and High School (9-12) - for the chance to **win amazing prizes!** Do not let your budding stars, screenwriters and directors miss out on this incredible opportunity to hone their skills, get recognition for their hard work, and broadcast the important message of No Place for Hate. Feel free to send this information to any faculty member or student that may be interested in spearheading your school's video. Please see the **Student Video Contest Guidelines** for more detailed information about the contest, and be sure to include signed **Contest Compliance** and **Video Release** forms when you submit your video. For more information, contact Jeremy at 215-568-2223 or [jbannett@adl.org](mailto:jbannett@adl.org). Best of luck!



No Place for Hate invites budding directors, producers, screenwriters, camerapeople, and actors to make a film about challenging bullying and bias at your school!

**February 14**  
**VALENTINE'S DAY**

Celebrates the idea of romantic love.

**February 15**

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY**

Birthday of Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906), a pioneer in the Women's Rights Movement.

**February 15**

**NIRVANA DAY \* Buddhist**

Celebrates the day when the historical Buddha achieved Parinirvana, or complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body. Sometimes celebrated February 8.

**February 18**

**PRESIDENTS' DAY**

Honors all past presidents of the United States of America.

**February 24**

**PURIM \* Jewish**

The "Feast of Lots" marks the salvation of the Jews of ancient Persia from extermination.

**February 25**

**MAGHA PUJA \* Buddhist**

Also known as Sangha Day, it commemorates the spontaneous assembly of 1,250 arahants, completely enlightened monks, in the historical Buddha's presence.

**February 26-March 1**

**AYYÁM-I-HA OR INTERCALARY DAYS \* Bahá'í**

The Ayyám-i-ha, or "Days of Ha" are devoted to spiritual preparation for the fast, celebrating, hospitality, charity and gift giving. They are celebrated the four days, five in leap year, before the last month of the Bahá'í year.

For more information, visit [ADL's Calendar of Observances](#)

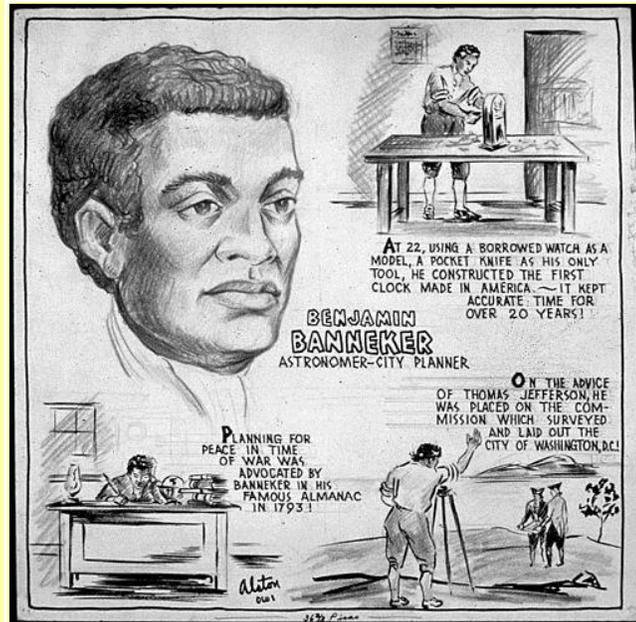
**Upcoming Resources and Events**

**Nominate a Young Volunteer for \$10,000 in Scholarships**

**Perfect Your Project**

**Black History Is American History: Considerations for an Authentic Black History Month**

In 1926, the historian Carter Woodson proposed that schools devote a week in February to celebrate the contributions of African Americans to American history. Since then, the celebration of Black history expanded to encompass the entire month, and thousands of students and teachers across the country look forward to this exciting time every year. As you plan your Black History Month activities, please keep in mind a few considerations that will keep the celebration relevant and culturally appropriate.



Introduce students to Black leaders in a variety of fields who impacted their professions and changed American history.

Some of the more common Black History Month projects ask students to select a prominent African American figure to research and present to their peers. This activity can open students' minds to the important work of African American politicians, activists, scientists, mathematicians, writers, artists, and more. Given the opportunity, however, many students opt to research famous Black sports or music icons, which could potentially be counterproductive to the purpose of Black History Month. While these individuals are often important to their respective fields, allowing students to just present sports or music figures does not do justice to African American contributions to U.S. history, and these assignments may in fact reinforce stereotypes that Black Americans can only be successful in athletics or music. Of course, many Black sports and music figures did indeed change American history by breaking racial barriers and challenging racism, such as Jackie Robinson and Louis Armstrong, and students should be encouraged to research and gain inspiration from these and similarly influential Black athletes and musicians. However,



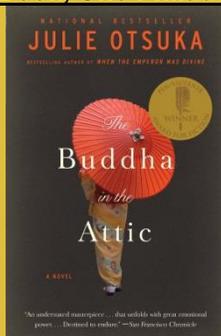
Kohl's Cares Scholarship Program wants you to nominate a young volunteer, age 6-18, who has made a difference in your community. Top winners each receive \$10,000 for higher education. Nominations are accepted February 1-March 15. Visit this [link](#) to learn more, or contact (319) 341-2932 or [kohls@act.org](mailto:kohls@act.org).

### Stop Bullying en Español!

StopBullying.gov has launched a new Spanish website: <http://espanol.stopbullying.gov/>.

Like the English-language version, the new site provides teachers, parents and community leaders with the resources they need to prevent bullying. We encourage you to explore the new site for research and best practices on cyberbullying, prevention and response. You will find a Spanish-language Bullying Prevention Training Module, that will help Latino stakeholders address bullying in their communities. For more information and resources visit [www.StopBullying.gov](http://www.StopBullying.gov).

### Participate in One Book, One Philadelphia



One Book, One Philadelphia, an initiative of the Philadelphia Free

having students choose to research Black leaders in a variety of academic, political and cultural arenas will provide students with a deeper appreciation of the scope of African American contributions to U.S. history.



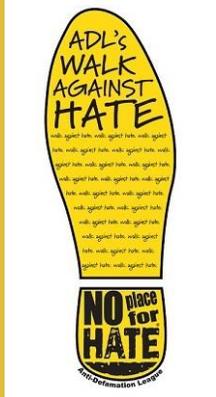
Teach students to appreciate not just the accomplishments of important African American leaders, but also the personal and societal struggles they had to overcome.

Many educators grew up hearing stories about the incredible accomplishments of important Black abolitionists and civil rights activists. Oftentimes, though, these stories featured larger-than-life, idealized, or otherwise well-intentioned but inaccurate depictions of the men and women who fought slavery and racism. Educators must be careful not to reteach these misleading stories to their students. Depicting important leaders as somehow superhuman tacitly delivers the message that "average people" cannot succeed at challenging hate. Martin Luther King, for instance, devoted his life to ending racism and segregation, and inspired millions to fight for this noble cause. However, at times Dr. King questioned himself and felt frustration and sadness at his failures. Teach your students about the internal and external struggles that Dr. King and other civil rights and anti-slavery leaders had to overcome to achieve their incredible feats, because showing their humanity can only heighten the inspiration we feel from their accomplishments.

As you plan your Black History Month projects, take this opportunity to alter your students' conceptions of the month. Carter Woodson wanted this special time to eventually inspire the wholesale integration of Black leaders and culture into the traditional curriculum. Black history is American history, and American history is Black history. African Americans have been central to every moment of the political, economic, social, cultural, and spiritual development of the United States, from the first pre-colonial outposts to modern day. So use Black History Month to spend a little extra time and depth on exploring Black Americans, but make a concerted effort to teach about African American contributions to the past, present, and future of the United States throughout the school year.

Library to promote literacy through city-wide book readings and discussions, has announced its 2013 reading selections. This year, the featured selection is Julie Otsuka's *The Buddha in the Attic*, "a beautifully crafted, poetic novel that illuminates the poignant, powerful stories of Japanese 'picture brides' who came to the United States during the early 1900s, tracing their experiences through both peacetime and the onset of World War II." The initiative will also feature the thematically related companion books, *Journey to Topaz* by Yoshiko Uchida for middle-grade readers, as well as *A Place Where Sunflowers Grow* by Amy Lee-Tai for young children. Schools that participate in One Book, One Philadelphia will be able to enjoy eight weeks of lectures, discussions, films, performances, workshops, exhibitions, and more, including a special appearance by author Julie Otsuka. To learn more, visit the Free Library of Philadelphia's [website](#).

**Register for ADL's WALK Against Hate!**

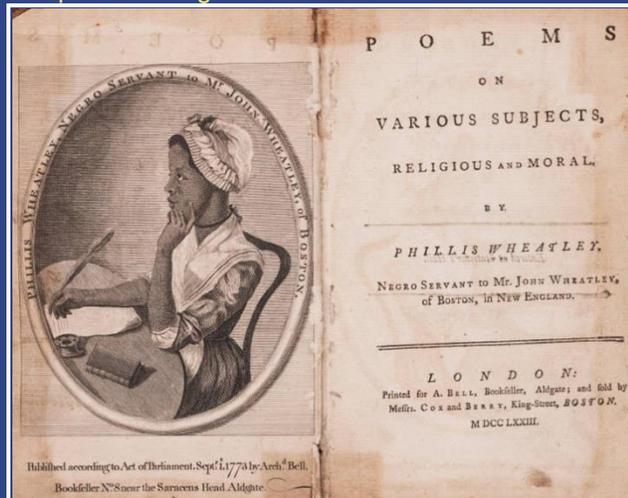


[Register now](#) for one of the best events of the year! ADL's third annual WALK Against Hate on Sunday, May 19, 2013 promises to be a fun and inspirational day. Mingle with guests at our Diversity Expo next to the the Philadelphia Museum of Art, enjoy fantastic performances,

## School Showcase

### **I Think that I Shall Never See / A Poem as Lovely as Diversity: William Loesche Elementary School Students Wax Poetic about No Place for Hate**

With Valentine's Day right in the heart of the month, February does not want for poetry. This February, William Loesche Elementary School in the School District of Philadelphia is channeling some of that abundant inspiration towards No Place for Hate. Students in grades 3-5 will compose odes to one of four themes - culture, respect, diversity, and peace. These poets-that-know-it will dig deeply into their souls to explore their feelings about embracing difference. As they develop an appreciation for poetry and strengthen their writing skills, the wee wordsmiths will also gain a deeper love for diversity. The young bards will then publish their sonnets in the school newspaper and on a bulletin board for the whole community to see. This project can be tailored to students of all ages, so consider doing something similar at your school. To sum up in an iambic pentameter rhyming couplet: On this, the month of poems so top-rate / assign some verses for No Place for Hate!



Help your students channel their inner Phillis Wheatleys to write poems about diversity!

### **Breaking Down Barriers: Charles Boehm Middle School Learns about Islam**

Although Islam is the second largest religion in the world, many American students do not know enough about this important faith. The staff and students at Charles Boehm Middle School in the Pennsbury School District went on an exciting field trip to a local mosque to learn more about Islam's creed, customs and contributions to the world. Students took a tour of the mosque and observed Islamic practices. Religious leaders at the site gave an interactive presentation that enlightened students about the basic tenets of the faith, and compared and contrasted Islam to other religions. This unique experience opened students' minds to a fuller appreciation of Islam, and helped them develop understanding and respect for its rich religious tradition. After

and show your support for ending hate with a 5K walk down Martin Luther King Drive. The WALK is a great way to get students, teachers, and parents to band together in a showing of diversity to make strides against bigotry and bias. Contact us about ways to make attendance at the WALK one of your No Place for Hate projects for the year. We hope to see you there!

their bridge-building visit, students brought their newfound knowledge back to the whole school community by creating a display in the cafeteria with quotes and information about their visit. Charles Boehm Middle School encourages students to value other religions, and we hope you will teach your students to appreciate other faiths by exposing them to the basic beliefs and practices of a variety of world religions.



Local mosques are an excellent resource for teaching students about Islam and respecting different religions.

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