

February 2024 Spokane Area Diversity/Cultural Events

Black History Month (African American History Month)

Prior to 1925, little information could be found in the U.S. about African American history. A widely held belief existed that African Americans had made little contribution to U.S. society. In 1926, Carter G. Woodson spearheaded the first Negro History Week to raise awareness. Fifty years later, the week was expanded to a month. February was selected because of the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas, two individuals who dramatically affected the lives of African Americans. The 2024 Black History Month theme is “**African Americans and thr Arts**”. African American Art is infused with African, Caribbean, and the Black lived experience. In the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, floklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary, and other forms of cultural expression, the African American inclucences has been paramount.

Visit <http://www.asalh.org> (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) for more information. Visit <https://asalh.org/festival/> for a month-long festival of events that will address the 2024 theme.

Democracy Now

Day: Monday-Friday

Time: 8:00 am – 9:00 am & 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

A national, daily, independent, award-winning news program hosted by journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez. Pioneering the largest public media collaboration in the U.S. Link <https://www.democracynow.org/>. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Democracy Now! Headlines in Spanish

Date: Saturday

Time: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Democracy Now! is a national, daily, independent, award-winning news program hosted by journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: www.kyrs.org or www.democracynow.org.

Dragonflies on Thin Air

Day: Sunday

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

One of the few elementary age children’s radio shows produced by kids for kids in the country. The program is fun and educational for children and adults, and includes a mix of jokes, music, guests, stories, poetry, trivia and more. includes Alice, Elenor C., Lily, Rowan, Sicely, Finn, Eleanor M., Sophia, Aleric and Amara. They all go to Spokane Public Montessori elementary school. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Earth Matters Now!

Date: Tuesday

Time: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Providing a unique perspective on environmental news, issues and science to inform, educate, enable and create a platform for positive environmental action. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Generational Warfare

Day: Saturday

Time: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Join host Ry the Y as he battles with his Gen Z co-hosts, Zakris and Ezekiel. The three friends, alongside guests from the community, grapple with generational divides — both the silly and the seemingly irreconcilable. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Irish Music on Tap**Day: Wednesday**

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Music from Ireland, Scotland, and England as well as Celtic Brittany and Canada. Hosted by Don and Rick, on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

KYRS Community Radio: Page Turner Show

Discussions with various folks.

Date: Fridays

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Listen on 88.1, 92.3 or at kyrs.org

For more information visit <https://kyrs.org/>.

Latin Lounge**Day: Monday**

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

A wide spectrum of Latin music. Hosted by “Corazon” on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website:

<http://www.kyrs.org>.

Nacho Celtic Hour**Day: Sunday**

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Caridwen Irvine-Spatz is the host of the Nacho Celtic Hour, a program that explores acoustic music from many traditions but mainly focused on music from the Celtic diaspora- especially if it has a local connection. Lately the show has been featuring music from Ukraine. Listen on KPBX at 91.1, visit website

<https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/kpbx-91-1-radio-schedule#weekly>.

Out and About**Day: Tuesday**

Time: 4:00 pm – 4:55 pm

Consists of a variety of LGBTQ, local news, locally produced, music and public Affairs. Host and producer Maeve Griffith. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Queens of Noise**Day: Wednesday**

Time: 8:00 pm-10:00 pm

You will hear best in female vocalist/musicians. Hosted by Luscious Duchess, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website:

<http://www.kyrs.org>.

The Science of Poverty**Day: Saturday**

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Explores the topic of poverty. Hosted by Jesse Quintana, official Facebook site. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM.

Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

The Spanish Hour**Day: Monday**

Time: 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Candice Agree invites everyone who has an interest in, a fascination of, and a love for the cultural life of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world to tune in to this unique classical music program. Listen on KPBX at 91.1, visit website

<https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/kpbx-91-1-radio-schedule#weekly>.

Spokane Public Radio, KPBX 91.1, An NPR Member Station

Various programs and news throughout the day.

Listen at 91.1. KPBX

For more information on programs, visit <https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/all-shows>.

Sounds of Science

Day: Sunday

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Lively discussion of what is happening in the world of science, from how it is affecting our lives to the ways we are shaping it. Hosted by Blake, Amaya and Adam. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>,

Welcome Home

Day: Thursday

Time: 10:00 am – noon

A multi-genre roots based folk show. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Women’s Media Center Live

Day: Wednesday

Time: noon – 1:00 pm

WMC Live with Robin Morgan tackles today’s hottest topics; whether it be sex, politics, art, humor, religion, culture, or news stories that go unreported, each is engaged regularly, insightfully, and intelligently. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Workin’ Woman Blues

Day: Sunday

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Tunes to help you shake the blues out of your hair with a mix of Funk, R&B, Soul and Blues. Hosted by Jukebox Jennie. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

2024 Jewish Film Festival

For its 20th Anniversary, they will kick off this milestone festival with an opening night gala at Montvale Event Center, complete with silent auction and catered reception, and exclusive screening of *Remembering Gener Wilder*. Other films will be screened at Gonzaga University’s Jepson Center or online, including retrospective films from previous years.

Dates: Gala: January 27, 2024; In-person Screenings: January 28th, February 3 & 4, 2024 Online: January 28-February 8, 2024

Time: Gala: 6:00 pm -9:30 pm, In-person Screenings: Sunday 28th/4th: 2:00-4:00 pm Saturday 3rd: 7:00-9:00 pm Location: Gala: Montvale Event Center, 1019 W 1st Ave, In-person Screenings: Wolff Auditorium, Jepson Center, Gonzaga University, and On-line.

Cost: Tickets for Opening Night Gala \$30. In-person screenings: \$15.00 and online (per household): \$15.00. GA Student/Senior discounts & festival passes available.

For more information, please call 509.747.7394 or email Neal Schindler at director@sajfs.org. For details about the films and to buy tickets, please visit the festival website at sjff2024.eventive.org. Festival proceeds support the [human services work](http://www.human-services-work.org) of Jewish Family Services.

Experience Palestine | A Film Festival

Immerse yourself in the culture, history, and stories of Palestine through a selection of films. From thought-provoking documentaries to heartwarming narrative, this festival offers a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Palestine.

Date: Sundays, January 28, 2024 through February 18, 2024.

Time: All movies are 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Jan 28th – *1948*, February 4th – *5 Broken Cameras*, Feb 11th – *Al Helm: MLK in Palestine* and February 18th – *Imprisoning A Generation*.

Location: Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane, 4340 Whistalks Way

Cost: Donations welcome

For more information, email info@INWCLP.com. Sponsored by INW Coalition for the Liberation of Palestine.

Questmas

Outdoor skating rink, skating is free for the whole family, please limit your skating to 50 minutes. Skate and helmet rentals are available at no charge.

Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024 – February 18, 2024

Time: 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Northern Quest Resort & Casino, access from the River Tower Lobby, 100 N Hayford Rd

Cost: Free. For rules and Additional information, please visit their website below, including signing a waiver. .

For more information visit <https://www.northernquest.com/questmas>.

3rd Annual Spokane Black Voices – “Black Joy: An Aspirational Mindset”

African American students from the Spokane area will be presenting their work based on the above theme.

Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, Coughlin Theater, 211 E Desmet Ave

Cost: Free, however you need to RSVP

For more information visit www.spokesman.com/northwest-passages. Celebrating Black History Month with the re-launch of *The Black Lens* print publication. Presented by The Spokesman Review: Northwest Passages.

2024 Regional Student Invitational Art Exhibition

The Gonzaga University Art Department and the Gonzaga University Urban Arts Center are pleased to present their 2024 Regional Student Invitational Exhibition. This is a group exhibition featuring student art works from: Gonzaga University, Eastern Washington University, Whitworth University, Spokane Falls Community College, and North Idaho College.

Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 – March 1, 2024

Time: Friday 4:00 pm – 7: pm, Saturday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: Gonzaga University Urban Arts Center, 125 S Stevens, 3rd floor

Cost: Open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays only

For more information visit <https://www.gonzaga.edu/gonzaga-university-urban-arts-center> or contact Aubrey Susens at susens@gonzaga.edu or call 509.313.6686.

Washington State Rising: Black Power on Campus in the Pacific Northwest.

Speaker Dr. Robinson was a Visiting Professor of History at Whitworth and is now Assistant Professor of History at Cal State San Bernardino.

Date: Friday, February 2, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Weyerhaeuser Hall, Robinson Teaching Theatre, Whitworth University

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://forms.whitworth.edu/calendar/event/detail/4710> or email joroza@whitworth.edu.

Imagine Jazz Quartet

Classic Jazz, Bossa Nova and selections from the American Songbook performed by Rachel Bade-McMurphy & Brendan McMurphy.

Date: Friday, February 2, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Davenport Hotel Lobby, 10 S Post St

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://imaginejazz.org/events>.

Make Kimchi with Juan Juan!

Learn how to make kimchi without processed sugar or fish sauce with Community Education, Juan Juan. She will also teach you a few easy ways to use your homemade kimchi.

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2024

Time: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Location: Shadle Park Library Studio, 2111 W Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://events.spokanelibrary.org/>.

Authentic Indian Yoga

Instructor Devika Gates will be leading in an authentic Indian Yoga practice. Wear loose clothing, bring a yoga mat, and come prepared for gentle exercise.

Date: Sunday, February 4, 2024

Time: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Location: Shadle Park Library, 2111 W Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://events.spokanelibrary.org/>.

Learn How to Use *The Fig Tree's Resource Directory*

Learn about the Fig Tree's history and mission, media literacy, the importance of nonprofit, independent media and the *Resource Directory* as a self-help tool.

Date: Monday, February 5, 2024

Time: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Location: Hillyard Library, 4110 N Cook St

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://events.spokanelibrary.org/>.

The Sound of [Black] Music

A dynamic and groundbreaking production that reimagines one of America's most beloved musical classics through an Afrofuturistic lens. The electrifying score, featuring elements of jazz, soul, funk, and hip-hop, celebrates the rich cultural heritage of black music and its impact on American popular culture.

Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, Gonzaga University, 2211 E DeSmeth Ave

Cost: \$30-\$48

For more information www.gonzaga.edu/mwpac.

NAACP General Membership Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: TBA

Cost: Free, meeting open to everyone

For more information contact spkncpbr@gmail.com or visit their Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/spokane.naacp/>.

25th Annual Spokane International Film Festival (SpIFF)– In-person and Online

Opening night kick-off event for the Spokane International Film Festival. Featuring films that are the best in the NW. In addition to animation, global shorts, features, and documentaries. See below for link to view schedule, location, and cost.

Dates: Friday-Tuesday, February 9, 2023 – February 16, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm on February 9, check website for all other times

Location: Various locations: The Bing, Magic Lantern both in-person and virtual screenings via the [Eventive.com](https://www.eventive.com) festival platform.

Cost: check website below

For a full schedule of films, tickets, location, and more information, visit www.spokanefilmfestival.org.

Dragon Dance, Chinese Folk Dance, and Shaolin Style Kung Fu

The Spokane Chinese Association presents its dragon dance, folk dance, and a youth demonstration of Shaolin Style Kung Fu in celebration of the Year of the Dragon Lunar New Year.

Date: Saturday, February 10, 2024

Time: 11:00 am – 11:30 am

Location: Shadle Park Library, 2111 W Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://events.spokanelibrary.org/>.

Death Cafe

At a Death Cafe, people gather to eat cake, drink tea, and discuss death. The objective is to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives. A Death Cafe is a group-directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives, or themes. It is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counseling session.

Dates: Sunday, February 11, 2024 - every 2nd Sunday

Time: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Location: Spokane Public Central Library, Conference Room B and Lounge, 906 W. Main St

Cost: Free, need to reserve a ticket

For more information visit <https://deathcafe.com/deathcafe/17431> or RSVP at <https://rubiconsedge.com/events>.

The Secret History of Bigfoot by John O'Connor

From the shrouded forests of the Pacific Northwest to off-the-wall cryptozoological conventions, one man searches high and low for the answer to the question: real or not, why do we want to believe?

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Spokane Central Public Library, 906 W Main Ave

Cost: Free, need to RSVP at <https://www.auntiesbooks.com/event/secret-history-bigfoot-john-oconnor>.

For more information visit <https://www.auntiesbooks.com/>.

Cocina mundial: Comida puertorriqueña / World Cooking in Spanish: Puerto Rican Food

Wilma Cartagena, Chef de Feast World Kitchen, nos mostrará en línea la preparación de un platillo tradicional puertorriqueña mientras usted sigue los pasos en la cocina de su hogar. Cuando se registre en este programa, recibirá la receta y la lista de ingredientes. Con anticipación compre y prepare los ingredientes para así cocinar junto con Wilma, mientras ella nos habla de la cultura de la comida puertorriqueña. Este programa se presenta en español.

Chef Wilma Cartagena, from Feast World Kitchen, demonstrates the preparation of a traditional Puerto Rican dish in an online presentation while you follow along in your home kitchen. After you register for this program, you will receive the recipe and ingredients list. Purchase and prepare the ingredients in advance, and then cook along with Wilma as she shares tidbits about Puerto Rican food culture. This program is presented in Spanish.

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Spokane County District Library – on-line

Cost: Free, Es necesario inscribirse. Registration is required at link below.
For more information visit <https://sclid.libcal.com/event/11558478>.

People of the Movement: Oral Storytelling Through Voice, Song & Gesture

Learn about the Civil Rights Movement through song and oral interpretation. Experience the message of freedom that impacted Americans as a whole, highlighting the stories of the many who fought and died to change the political process of America. These stories are at the core of today's America as we continue to advance the rights and freedom of every American. We will also look back at the best practices of the movement and its influence in other social and political movements worldwide. Presented by Sara Lee Williams

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Spokane County District Library, Moran Prairie Library Meeting Room

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://sclid.libcal.com/event/11564210>.

Pride Valentines Day Dinner and Dance

Indulge in an enchanting evening at the Spokane Pride Valentine's Dinner and Dance, a celebration for singles, couples, thurples, and everyone in between!

Experience a night filled with door prizes, engaging games, and more, all within a welcoming and accepting environment that embraces diverse relationships. Whether you're in a polyamorous relationship or flying solo, our event is designed to ensure everyone has a memorable Valentine's dinner.

Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Nyne Bar and Bistro, 232 W Sprague Ave

Cost: \$25.00

For more information call 509.760.4676 or visit

[https://www.facebook.com/events/3718630268419797/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%2252%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22\[%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra_data%5C%22%3A%7B%5C%22invite_link_id%5C%22%3A%749531563329985%7D%7D\]%22%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/3718630268419797/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%2252%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22[%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra_data%5C%22%3A%7B%5C%22invite_link_id%5C%22%3A%749531563329985%7D%7D]%22%7D) .

Black History Month Event

A black-owned business and non-profit resource fair followed by panel of black men who are currently in leadership positions in Spokane.

Date: Saturday, February 17, 2024

Time: 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: Spokane Central Public Library, 906 W Main Ave

Cost: Free.

For more information visit <https://events.spokanelibrary.org/>.

18th Annual Viva Vino

Wine tasting, dinner, music, silent and live auction to be followed by dancing,

Date: Saturday, February 17, 2024

Location: Riverside Place, 1110 W Riverside Ave

Time: 5:30 pm

Cost: \$75.00 HBPA member \$85.00 general admission, \$3000 Platinum Table, \$2,500 Gold Table, \$1,500 Silver Table, and \$800 for Sponsor Table

For more information visit <https://www.hbpaofspokane.org/>. All proceeds go to LUNNA Youth Program.

Lunar New Year Celebration

Will feature traditional Chinese folk dances, Chinese Choir, Taichi, Chinese Martial Arts, Dragon Dance, Chinese music and Instruments, and more! Cultural fair with many family activities - Chinese calligraphy & painting, Lunar New Year photo booth, cuisine sampling, and many cultural booths.

Date: Sunday, February 18, 2024

Time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Cultural Fair, Performance 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Location: The Martin Woldson Theater at the Fox

Cost: Cultural Fair is free, 4:00 pm performance show is \$15.00-\$25.00. To purchase tickets, go to

<https://secure.foxtheaterspokane.org/802/998>.

For more information visit <http://www.spokanechinese.org/> or spokaneca@gmail.com. Presented by Spokane Chinese Association.

Refugee Foster Care Information Session

Interested in a unique way to support refugee youth? Become a foster parent! The Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) Program serves teenage youth seeking refuge in the U.S. who do not have family to provide care. Foster families offer a safe, supportive home for these youth to thrive.

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm- 6:00 pm

Location: Virtual Event

Cost: Free, Register for this virtual event at <https://forms.gle/ViGm1NVW7fjofwHf8>

For more information visit <https://lcsnw.org/>. Sponsored by Lutheran Community Services Northwest

Whiskey and Wiretaps: The Northwest's Rumrunning King

On Thanksgiving Day, 1925, Roy Olmstead was trapped by federal prohibition agents and their Tommy guns on a lonely Puget Sound dock. His reign as the Northwest's most prolific bootlegger had ended. But big questions—political, cultural, and legal—remained.

Why did Olmstead, the youngest lieutenant in Seattle Police Department history, form a secret gang to take over Prohibition bootlegging in the Northwest? What can we learn today from “The Good Bootlegger’s” story of whiskey-driven politics, culture wars, criminalization of popular social behavior, illegal surveillance, spies, sensational trials, and Constitution-bending trips to the Supreme Court?

Using photographs, documents, newspapers, and court cases, Steve Edmiston breathes life into Olmstead’s story by exploring historical context, his entrepreneurial brilliance, his code of conduct, and the profound impact of his legal battles today.

Steve Edmiston is a business and entertainment lawyer and lives in Des Moines, near the site of Olmstead’s final arrest

Date: Friday, February 23, 2024

Time: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Location: Spokane Public Library, South Hill Library, 3324 South Perry St

Cost: Free

For more information visit <https://events.spokanelibrary.org/event/9717066>. Sponsored by Humanities Washington Speakers Bureau.

Healthy Heart Powwow

MC Dave Madera, Area Director: JJ Meninick, Host Drum Rose Creek

Date: Friday, February 23, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm (to 10:00 pm) doors open, 5:30 pm dinner, 6:30 Grand Entry

Location: Rogers High School Gym, 01622 E Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free

For more information call Maria 509.463.7535. Sponsored by Native Project.

El Mercado

Fresh food, music, local vendors, and more.

Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024 (last Saturday of each month)

Time: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Location: West Central Community Center, 1603 N Belt St

Cost: Free

For more information visit latinosenspokane.org/mercado.

3rd Annual Spokane's Lunar New Year

Asian, Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (ANHPI) Business EXPO. Live performances, kid's craft stations, cultural fashion show, shop local vendor fair, cultural exhibits, exhibits, photobooth, give aways and more.

Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024

Time: Doors open at 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm, fireworks start at 7:00 pm

Location: Spokane Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A, 334 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Cost: Free

For more information visit www.spokaneunitedwestand.org.

African American Quilt History: Folk Art to Modern Art and Everything in Between

This lecture dispels long-held misperceptions of African American quilt aesthetics and the men and women who have made and continue to make them. The artistic mastery and diversity demonstrated in African American quilts is discussed, including a broad range of styles and techniques. Examples will be displayed. Presented by Dr. Carolyn Mazloomi

Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Spokane County Library District – on-line

Cost: Free, must register at link below

For more information visit <https://scl.d.libcal.com/event/11558484>.

Save the Date

2024 Fig Tree Lunch Benefit – Sharing Stories, Empowering People

Date: Friday, March 8, 2024

Time: 11:15 am – 1:00 pm

Location: Cataldo Hall, Gonzaga University

Cost: Free to attend, guests are asked to donate to The Fig Tree.

For more information visit <https://thefigtree.org/donate.html> or to RSVP, email event@thefigtree.org.

2024 Fig Tree Breakfast Benefit – Sharing Stories, Empowering People

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Time: 7:45 am – 8:45 am

Location: via Zoom

Cost: Free to attend, guests are asked to donate to The Fig Tree.

For more information visit <https://thefigtree.org/donate.html> or to RSVP, email event@thefigtree.org.

2024 Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: Margaret Mitchell, YWCA CEO

Date: Thursday, March 15, 2024

Time: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Location: The Convention Center, 333 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Cost: \$135 individual ticket, \$1,350 Table of 10, \$2,000 Corporate Sponsor, \$3,000 Achievement Sponsor

For more information, visit <https://ywcaspokane.org/how-to-help/events/women-of-achievement/>.

Holi Celebration

Please join Spokane's Indian Community for an opportunity to unite with colors and family fun.

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024

Time: 7:30 am – 8:45 am

Location: Southside Senior and Community Center, 3151 E 27th Ave

Cost: Free

For more information email devika.gates@gmail.com or charitydoyl@yahoo.com or website www.spokaneunitedwestand.org. Holi Colors available for sale, waiver and registration required.

Expo 74 – 50th Anniversary Celebration

Opening ceremony – May 4th, closing ceremony – July 4, 2024

Dates: May 4 – July 4, 2024

Time: Various

Location: Riverfront Park and other various venues

Cost: May vary based on event, otherwise free

For more information. visit <https://www.visitspokane.com/expo-50/>.

If you know of diversity/cultural events open to the public that you would like added to the monthly calendar, please e-mail Yvonne C. Montoya Zamora at yvonnecmz04@gmail.com with event details. For general events visit <https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/community-calendar> or www.visitspokane.com.

February 2024 International/National Cultural Celebrations Calendar

- February 1** **Abolition of Slavery- Mauritius**
The struggle for freedom of the slaves in Mauritius during the Dutch period between 1638 and 1710 is remembered and honored.
- February 2** **Groundhog Day – USA/Canada**
Folklore suggests that if the groundhog sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter.
- Imbolc- Wicca**
'Imbolg' comes from an archaic Gaelic expression 'in the belly', which signaled the first stirrings of life within the womb of mother earth. Corn dolls are burned as offerings to the sun to hasten his return.
- February 3** Kitchen of God Celebration - China
- Setsubun-sai – Japan**
Setsubun-sai is known as Bean Throwing Night. Beans are thrown to protect against demons with shouts of 'Devil out, Good Fortune in.'
- February 4** **Independence Day – Sri Lanka**
Observes independence from Great Britain in 1948.
- World Cancer Day – UN**
- February 6** **Waitangi Day – New Zealand**
This day commemorates the signing of a treaty at Waitangi on the 6th of February 1840 by a group of Māori chiefs and the British Government. It honors the rights of the British Crown and that of the Māori people and on this, celebrates the Maori culture.

- February 7** **Mulk (18th month) – Baha’i**
At sunset. The first day of the eighteenth Baha’i month. The English translation of Mulk (Arabic) is Dominion.
- Independence Day – Grenada**
Celebrates independence from the United Kingdom on February 7, 1974.
- February 8** **Boy Scout Day – Canada, USA**
- February 10** **Chinese / Lunar New Year – Buddhist, China**
- Losar (New Year) – Tibet, Buddhist**
The Tibetan New Year is called Losar and is celebrated for three days by visiting, feasting, and the relaxation of monastic discipline.
- Seollal - Korea**
- February 11** **National Foundation Day – Japan**
- February 12** **Lincoln’s Birthday – USA**
Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, “Honest Abe”, as he was commonly known, was born in Hardin Country, Kentucky on February 12, 1809.
- Kindness Awareness Week – International**
Established in 1995, the movement inspires people to share kindness with one another as they discover for themselves what power it has to effect positive change as healthy relationships are created and community connections are nourished.
- February 13** **Shrove Tuesday – Christian**
This is the day before Lent. Taken from the old word “shrive”, it means forgiveness. Traditionally it was a time to give up meat and dairy foods.
- Pancake Tuesday – UK**
Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras in French which means Fat Tuesday) is the last day before the beginning of Lent. Strict Christian Lenten rules prohibited the eating of all dairy products during Lent, so pancakes were made to use up their supplies of eggs, milk, butter and other fats. Pancake races are held in many parts of England.
- Great Prayer Festival – Tibet, Buddhist**
Monks from the Three Great Monasteries of Tibet assemble in Jikhang to pray to Shakyamuni’s image as it were the Living Buddha. Philosophical debates are held among the candidates for the Doctor of Metaphysics.
- Carnaval Parade - Brazil**
A two-day celebration before Ash Wednesday. It is called the Mardi Gras in Brazil. Celebrated the day before lent.
- February 14** **Valentine’s Day – USA, Canada, UK**
One version states that a priest named Valentine was martyred on February 14, 269 AD in Rome for secretly marrying couples against the orders of the Roman Emperor, Claudius II. This was the night before a festival called Lupercalia associated with fertility. Probably both customs became associated with this day.

- February 14** **Ash Wednesday (Lent begins) – Christian**
 This day marks the beginning of Lent. Ash symbolizes sorrow for wrong doings and foreheads of church goers are marked with the shape of the cross with ashes as a sign of penitence.
- Basant Panchami - Hindu**
 This festival honors Saraswati, the Goddess of Learning, Wisdom, and the Creative Arts. In Northern India, heralds the approach of spring and yellowed colored clothes are symbolically worn. Food is colored yellow by using saffron.
- February 15** **National Flag Day – Canada**
 Twenty-year old Joan O'Malley sewed Canada's first flag in 1964. The flag was raised for the first time on Parliament Hill in Ottawa at the stroke of noon on February 15, 1965.
- National Day – Serbia**
 Commemorates the day in 1804 when the first uprising against the Ottoman Turks began. Independence was gained in 1829, and the constitution was signed in 1835.
- February 16** **Independence Day – Lithuania**
 Commemorates the 1918 declaration of independence from Russia. In 1990, the country again declared independence from the Soviet Union.
- February 18** **Independence Day – Gambia**
 Celebrates the anniversary of independence from Britain in 1965. A public vote in 1970 made the country a republic within the commonwealth.
- February 19** **Presidents Day Observed – USA**
 A U.S. federal holiday that celebrates the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, born February 12, 1809 and George Washington, born February 22, 1732.
- Family Day – Canada**
 Observed on the 3rd Monday of February. In the provinces of Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, the holiday is instead termed Louis Riel Day, Nova Scotia Heritage Day and Islander Day respectively.
- Louis Riel Day – Indigenous Peoples of Canada**
 The famous Metis leader who in 1885 led a rebellion and lost against the Canadian authorities because he feared more Metis land would be taken away by the settlers. Today his name is a symbol for Native independence.
- February 21** **International Mother Language Day - UN**
 The UN International Mother Language Day annually celebrates language diversity and variety worldwide on this date. It also remembers the killing of four students on February 21, 1952, because they campaigned to officially use their mother language, Bengali, in Bangladesh.
- February 22** **Abu Simbel Festival – Egypt**
 Built by Ramses II, his temple is angled so that the inner sanctum lights up twice a year – once on the anniversary of his rise to the throne and on October 22, celebrating his birthday. Crowds pack in the temple before sunrise to watch the shafts of light illuminate the statues of Ramses, Ra, and Amon.

- February 22** **Washington’s Birthday – USA**
 George Washington, first president of USA was born in Virginia on February 11, 1731, according to the then-used Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and all its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar which moved Washington's birthday a year and 11 days to February 22, 1732.
- Girl Guides Thinking Day – Canada**
 This is the joint birthday of Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and his wife Olave who became the World Chief Guide.
- Independence Day – Saint Lucia**
 Saint Lucia became an independent nation on February 22, 1979. On this date it became an independent member of the Commonwealth of Nations with the British queen as the head of the state.
- February 23** **Heisel Emperor’s Birthday – Japan**
 This is the current Emperor’s. His reign has been names Heisei (Succeed at Peace).
- February 24** **Independence Day – Estonia**
 Commemorates independence from the Soviet Union in 1918. Independence was brief. The country was again under Soviet control from 1940 until 1991.
- February 25** **National Day – Kuwait**
 Commemorates the 1978 accession of King Shaykh Sir ‘abdullah Al-Salim al-Sabah.
- People Power Day – Philippines**
 Commemorates the bloodless revolution in 1986 in which President Ferdinand Marcos was toppled from power.
- Intercalary Days (thru March 1) – Baha’i**
 There are four or five days inserted into the calendar called Ayyam-i-ha adjusting the Baha’i year to the solar cycle. This precedes a month of fasting from March 2-20. Gifts are exchanged, parties and public meetings are held to share the faith.
- Anti-Bullying Day – Canada**
- February 27** **Independence Day - Dominican Republic**
 Encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that you do not tolerate bullying.
- February 28** **Kalevala Day- Finland**
 Elias Lonnrot, a country doctor, folklorist, and philologist compiled the Kalevala. Finland’s national epic in 1835. This day is observed country wide with lectures, parades, and recitations to honor him.

Source: The majority of the Diversity/Cultural Celebrations with permission are from Creative Cultural Communications *Multicultural Calendar 2024*.
