

January 2020 Spokane Area Diversity/Cultural Events

National Mentoring Month

Acknowledging mentoring and the positive impact it can have on young lives is the goal of this month-long celebration. First observed in 2002, spearheaded by the Harvard Mentoring Project and the MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership (<http://www.nationalmentoringmonth.org/>). This celebration draws national attention to the need for mentors, as well as how individuals, business, government agencies, schools, faith communities, and nonprofits can work together to ensure healthy and productive lives for young people. Also visit <http://www.mentoring.org/> for more information.

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Beginning in 2010, by Presidential Proclamation, each January has been designated National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Following the start of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, with the help of non-government organizations, National Human Trafficking Day began and is observed annually on January 11 (#WearBlueDay).

Per The Washington Anti-trafficking Response Network (WARN - <http://warn-trafficking.org/>), Human Trafficking is the use of force, fraud, coercion to compel a person into any form of labor against their will. This can occur in an industry. Human Trafficking is also described a modern-day slavery or involuntary servitude. For more information visit the website listed above, and Lutheran Community Services for local information and resources.

Mount St. Helens: Critical Memory

Film, photography, recordings and firsthand accounts examining how the 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption advanced humankind’s understanding and perceptions of volcanoes.

Dates: December 21, 2019 through July 1, 2020

Time: Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Location: [Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture](#), 2316 W. First Ave

Cost: \$10.00 adult, \$9.00 military, \$8.00 seniors/college students, \$5.00 children ages 6-17.

For more information visit their website at <https://www.northwestmuseum.org> or call 509.456.3931.

“Sacred Encounters: Father De Smet and the Indians of the Rocky Mountain West” Exhibit

The exhibit tells the story of how Jesuit missionaries (Father De Smet) came to the interior Northwest at the invitation of the Coeur d' Alene and Salish tribes and the profound effects this sacred encounter had on both cultures.

Date: Open, no end date at this time

Time: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm daily April through September, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm October through March, (closed holidays)

Location: Old Mission State Park, Cataldo, ID (I-90, exit 39 – 60 miles east of Spokane)

Cost: \$5.00 park entrance fee, exhibit \$5.00 per person/\$10.00 per family.

For more information visit their website at <https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/coeur-d-alenes-old-mission>.

Can You Queer Me Now?**Day: Tuesday**

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Hear voices directly from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, and Questioning community right here in the Inland Northwest. You will hear more about current events, local groups, and perspectives directly from the queer youth community. Hosted by Ian Sullivan on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

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.**Detention****Day: Monday**

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Variety music/talk show for teens by teens. This show is produced by the students of West Valley City School. Hosted by Kade, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.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. Hosted by [Trevor, Zoe, Eva and Selena](#), 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. Hosted by Don and Rick, on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.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>.

Layali Arabia**Day: Saturday**

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Arabic songs from a multitude of different genres to come out of the Arab World. Hosted by Rahmi on 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 “Queen of Mean” and “Luscious Duchess”, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

QueerSounds

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

QueerSounds is radio show dedicated to playing music by and for LGBTQ people. Music, interviews, community events and forums. Hosted by bob, KYRS FM 92.3 or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>. Join the hosts on Facebook at www.facebook.com/qsounds, or email them at queersounds@kyrs.org.

The Persian Hour

Day: Saturday

Time: noon – 1:00 pm

The Persian Hour’s consists of a variety of Iranian music from hip hop to traditional, Jazz, blues, rock and roll and the usual. Also, they will share stories, recipes, and interviews. Hosted by Shahrokh, 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 <https://www.facebook.com/TheScienceOfPoverty>, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Sounds of Science

Day: Sunday

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Lively discussion of what’s happening in the world of science, from how it is affecting our lives to the ways we are shaping it. Hosted by Chole, Blake, and Amaya. 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>.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, January 2, 2020

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Spark Central, 1214 W Summit Parkway

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.279.0299 or visit their website at <http://www.sparkwestcentral.org/>.

Beauty in the USA

Phyllis Stephens speaks on the natural landscapes and man-made wonders of the USA.

Date: Thursday, January 2, 2020

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: CenterPlace, 2426 N Discovery Place, Spokane Valley

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.535.8434 or visit their website at <http://www.tieg.org>.

Peace with Our Neighbors

Interfaith speakers on Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, Native American faiths.

Date: Sundays, January 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2020

Time: 10:00 am

Location: 1612 N Dalke

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.327.7852.

Hispanic Business / Professional Association Monthly Luncheon

Speaker: Patrick Blum, Disability Advocate/Awareness

Date: Wednesday, January 8, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm (6:00 pm- social/networking and dinner; 6:30 speaker/program, 7:00 pm business meeting)

Location: Fiesta Mexicana, 1227 S Grand Blvd

Cost: Free, appetizers will be provided to those attending

For more information regarding the meeting, contact hbpaspokane@gmail.com.

Showing Up for Racial Justice Committee

Book discussion on *White Fragility*.

Date: Thursday, January 9, 2020

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: 35 W Main Street

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.838.7870. Hosted by PJALS.

Women's March – Auction for Action Resource Fair – CANCELLED

Women's March community fair.

Date: Saturday, January 11, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: West Central Community Center, 1603 W Belt

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.993.3051 or email womensmarchspokane@gmail.com.

2020 Human Trafficking Awareness Month Reception

Join Lutheran Community Services Northwest for light refreshments on the third-floor stage of the Downtown Public Library overlooking the beautiful Spokane River falls. Visual Storytelling with our Silhouette Project, and art created by foster children who have experienced human trafficking in the US and in other nations.

Acknowledgement of efforts addressing human trafficking in the Inland Northwest. Networking and community time.

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Location: Spokane Public Library, 906 W Main Ave

Cost: Free, please register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-human-trafficking-awareness-month-reception-tickets-79467855495?utm_term=eventurl_text.

For more information visit <http://www.spokanelibrary.org/calendar/#/?i=2>.

Women+s March Spokane and Rally – “What is Your Vision for 2020”

Date: Saturday, January 18, 2020

Location: Spokane Red Wagon in Riverfront Park

Time: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Cost: Free

For more information, visit their Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MarchOnSpokane/>.

MLK Community Celebration

Commemorative Celebration

Date: Sunday, January 19, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Location: Holy Temple Church of God in Church of God in Christ, 806 W Indiana

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information contact MLK Jr. Family Outreach Center at 509.868.0856 or visit their website at www.mlkspokane.org.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration 2020: Annual Unity March and Resource Fair

Date: Monday, January 20, 2020

Time: 10:00 am (Unity Rally and March), noon to 2:00 pm (Resource Fair)

Location: Unity March starts downtown at the Spokane Convention Center, 334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd

Community Resource Fair from 11:00 am-2:00 pm, at the Spokane Convention

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information contact MLK Jr. Family Outreach Center at 509.868.0856 or visit their website at www.mlkspokane.org.

NAACP Monthly Membership Meeting

Date: Monday, January 20, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: 35 W Main

Cost: Free, meeting open to everyone

For more information contact spkncpbr@gmail.com or visit their Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/spokane.naacp/>.

Eastern Washington Legislative Conference – “Making It Happen”

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020

Time: 8:30 AM – 3:30 pm

Location: Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, 115 N Raymond

Cost: Suggested donation of \$20.00

For more information and/or to RSVP, call 509.535.1813, 509.535.4112, or email event@thefigtree.org.

Daughters of Norway

A club to unite women who wish to preserve their Nordic heritage by exploring its rich history, culture, folk arts and native languages. Meetings involve sharing Nordic tales, cooking, arts and tips on retracing family roots.

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 (fourth Saturday of each month)

Time: 10:00 am

Location: TBD

For more information call 509.926.8090 or visit www.daughtersofnorwayfreya.org or contact (509) 926-8090 for location and time of monthly meetings.

Chinese New Year Celebration

Year of the Rat

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm (1:00 pm cultural fair, 3:00 pm storytelling, 4:30 performances)

Location: University High School, 12420 E 32nd Ave, Spokane Valley

For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/pg/spokanechineseassociation/photos/>. Hosted by the Spokane Chinese Association

KPBX Kids Concert – The Zonky Jazz Band

The Roaring 20's to WWII music, will be performed by The Zonky Jazz Band

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: St John's Cathedral, 12th Ave. and Grand Blvd

Cost: Free

For more information visit their website at <https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/post/kpbx-kids-concert-zonky-jazz-band-saturday-january-25>.

Robert Burns Night

Enjoy an evening of Scottish culture.

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020

Time: Doors open at 5:00 pm, event begins at 6:00 pm, dinner served at 6:30 pm

Location: Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute, 4000 W Randolph Rd

Cost: Adults \$55.00 plus \$2.00 processing fee, Children (ages 12 and under) \$30.00 plus \$2.00 processing fee For more information, visit their website at <https://www.inlandnwscots.org/calendar.html>.

Ghanaian Night

International dinner featuring guest chefs Dorcas and Yvonne from Ghana. The menu includes: Jolof Rice with Chicken, Waache (rice and beans) with Beef, Kelewele (fried ripe plantains) with roasted peanuts, Coleslaw, and Meat Pie.

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Women's Center Club, 1428 W 9th St

Cost: \$25.00 a person, \$5.00 for kids from 5-12, purchase tickets from

https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4475391?fbclid=IwAR1w8_nLE4jfjCuGqm7NPJWofiBcAUwuLK17t0i-2nPNF2t9rMbmjfHrYcM.

For more information visit their website at www.inlandcurry.com.

Spokane Jewish Cultural Film Festival

Featuring documentary *Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles* (1/30/2020), *The Light of Hope* (La llum d' Elna) in Spanish, Catalan and French with English subtitles (2/1/2020); and *The Unorthodox in Hebrew and Yiddish with English subtitles* (2/2/2020).

Date: Thursday, January 30, 2020 and Saturday/Sunday, February 1-2, 2020

Time: 1/30/20-6:30 pm – 9:30 pm with light appetizers, 2/1/20-7:00 pm, 2/2/20, 2:00 pm

Location: Jepson Center, Gonzaga University

Cost: \$10.00 each film or \$20.00 package for all three films

For more information visit their website at <http://sajfs.org/our-programs/sjcff/>.

Esperanza

An evening of Flamenco and Celtic Music Dance featuring An Dochas. Esperanza, meaning “hope” in Spanish and An Dochas means “hope” in Gaelic. Live performance of Flamenco presented by the Spokane based organization Quiero Flamenco. This year’s show will showcase two diverse but complimentary styles of music and dance. The show will fuse both Flamenco and Celtic music and dance to achieve a unique and inspiring demonstration of blending cultures and styles.

Date: Friday, January 31, 2020

Location: Bing Crosby Theatre

Time: 7:30 pm

Cost: \$25.00 Advance plus \$2.00 processing fee, \$30 at the door

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <http://www.bingcrosbytheater.com/>.

SAVE THE DATE

14th Annual Viva Vino & Brew (Scholarship Fundraiser)

Wine, craft beer, hard cider tasting. Food provided by De Leon’s, with EWU’s Mariachi Las Aguilas, silent and live auction to be followed by dancing. Scholarship fundraiser for scholarships for Spokane County high school seniors and undergraduate college/university students.

Date: Saturday, February 1, 2020

Location: Shriner’s Event Center, 7217 W Westbow Blvd (Geiger Exit off I=90)

Time: 6:00 pm

Cost: \$45.00 HBPA member, \$50.00 non-member

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.hbpspokane.net or email hbpspokane@gmail.com.

WSU College of Education’s 169th Annual International Globalization, Diversity and Education Conference.

Theme “(Re)Imagining Education for Liberation”

Dates: February 27-28, 2020

Location: Northern Quest Casino & Resort, 100 North Hayford Road, Airway Heights,

Cost: see their website

For more information, visit their website at <http://education.wsu.edu/globalization/>

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 www.visitspokane.com or www.spokane7.com/.

January 2020 International/National Cultural Celebrations Calendar

January 1 New Year’s Day – International

The first day of the New Year according to the Gregorian calendar is probably the most widely observed event in the world, marked by most nations, religions, and cultures.

St. Basil’s Day - Greece

The Greeks call New Year, St. Basil’s Day. Traditionally, gifts are exchanged.

January 1 Gantan-Sai – Japan, Shinto

Gantan-sai, also referred to as Shogatu, is the Shinto New Year holiday. The faithful visit shrines, often at midnight, praying for renewal of heart, health, and prosperity. During the seven-day holiday, people wear their best clothing and visit the homes of friends and family to express their wishes for the coming year.

Independence Day- Haiti

Haiti gained its independence from France in 1804. Haiti made history by being the first Black Country to gain its independence. According to Haitian custom, whatever happens to someone on New Year's Day is indicative of what will happen during the coming year, thereby motivating people to put on new clothes, visit friends, and exchange gifts in the hope that these efforts will be rewarded.

Independence Day – Sudan

Egypt and Britain signed a treaty guaranteeing Sudanese independence in 1956.

January 2**Berchtold's Day - Switzerland**

This day honors Duke Berchtold V, who founded Bern, the capital of Switzerland. He promised to name the city after the first animal he killed on a hunt. The bear (bern in German) then provided the city's name.

January 4**Independence Day – Myanmar (Burma)**

Commemorates independence from Great Britain in 1948.

January 5**Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday – Sikh**

He was the 10th and last living Guru of the Sikh faith. He founded the "Khalsa" brotherhood where the initiated adopted the five 'K's: Kangha (wooden comb), Kara (steel bracelets), Kipan (sword), Kaccha (pair of shorts), and Keah (long hair).

January 6**Christmas - Armenia Christian**

Armenian Christmas is celebrated on January 6th around the world (except in Jerusalem) placing more emphasis on the Epiphany.

Epiphany - Christian

In the Western church, this day celebrates the journey of the three Wise Men to Bethlehem to offer gifts to the infant Jesus. In the Eastern Church it is associated with the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. On this day as well, the Armenians celebrate Christmas.

Three Kings' Day - Christian

In South America, Latin America and parts of Europe, the end of the Christmas season is a traditional time for gift giving.

January 7**Christmas - Christian- Coptic and Eastern Orthodox**

On this day, some Eastern churches celebrate the birth of Jesus according to the Julian calendar, which is currently 13 days behind the Gregorian and Western calendar.

January 11**National Human Trafficking Awareness Day | #WearBlueDay**

Beginning in 2010, by Presidential Proclamation, each January has been designated National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Following the start of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, with the help of non-government organizations, National Human Trafficking Day began and is observed annually on January 11.

January 13**Lohri – Hindu - Sikh**

Bonfires are lit to mark the change from the decrease to the increase of the sun.

Seijin No Hi - Japan

This day celebrates Coming-of-Age of the youth of Japan who are twenty years old. They wear traditional clothes and visit the shrines where the family announces their adulthood to the spirits. This is a national holiday.

January 13

St. Knut's Day- Finland, Sweden

King Knut who ruled Sweden from 1080-1086 is honored as a saint for his virtue and generosity. He had declared that Christmas should be celebrated for twenty days, officially ending the season on January 13th. The days between Christmas and Saint Knut's Day are filled with parties for children and adults. After this day, trees are taken down to mark the official close of the season.

January 14

New Year - Eastern Orthodox Christian-Coptic and Eastern Orthodox

The Eastern Orthodox Christians include Bulgarian Orthodox, Georgian Orthodox, Greek Orthodox, Macedonian Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Romanian Orthodox, and Serbian Orthodox.

Makar Sankranti - India, Hindu

The transition of the Sun from Sagitarius to Capricorn during the winter solstice in the northern hemisphere is known as Makar Sankranti. The days gradually lengthen in the northern hemisphere.

Pongol - India

A three-day rice harvest festival in South India is celebrated with a cultural evening of song and dance.

January 17

Kitchen God Celebration - China

The custom is based on the traditional farewell ceremony for T'sao Wang. Prince of the oven, before he leaves for his annual trip to heaven to report on families' good behavior during the year.

January 19

Sultan (17th Month) - Baha'i

Sunset - The first day of the seventeenth Baha'i month. The English translation of Sultan (Arabic) is Sovereignty.

Timkat/Theophany - Christian- Coptic & Eastern Orthodox

The Eastern Orthodox Church Associates' Theophany with the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist.

January 20

Martyrs' Memorial Day- Azerbaijan

Honors the citizens killed by Soviet troops on this day in 1990 as they fought for independence. Also called Black January. As the date falls on a weekend, it will be celebrated on January 22, 2018.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - USA

This day commemorates the leader of the 'Civil Rights' movement in USA. People of all races and religions have benefited from the sacrifices and accomplishments made by this great man. He was a Nobel Prize winner (Peace Prize 1964) and a prominent advocate of nonviolent protest. He was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

Anniversary Day- Wellington, New Zealand

Celebrate the founding of the province of Wellington in New Zealand.

January 25

Robert Burns' Night - Scotland

Robert Burns Night honors Scotland's national poet, born in 1759. The night is celebrated by the Scots with a sit down 'Burns Supper' and with speeches, poetry and song.

- January 25 Chinese New Year – Buddhist-China, Hong Kong Taiwan, Vietnam**
The year of the Rat. This is the year 4718 in the Chinese Lunar calendar and the most important holiday. It is a three-day holiday in China and Hong Kong. The Chinese clean and decorate their homes with the 5 lucky signs of happiness; new clothes are worn and even the poorest buy new shoes, for it is considered bad luck to step down on the ground in old shoes. Vietnamese call it ‘Tet’ Festival.
- January 26 Australia Day - Australia**
Commemorates the anniversary of the first Britain settlement in 1788, which was a penal colony established to help relieve overcrowding in British prisons.
- Republic Day - India**
Marks India’s severed ties from Great Britain in 1950.
- January 28 Great Prayer Festival – Tibet**
Monks from the Three Great Monasteries of Tibet assemble in Jikhang to pray to Shakyamuni’s image as if it were the Living buddha. Philosophical debates are held among the candidates for the Doctor of Metaphysics. Pilgrims come from every corner of Tibet.
- January 30 Sadeh – Iran, Zoroastrian**
Sadeh in Persian means “hundred” and refers to one hundred days and nights past the end of summer in ancient Persia/Iran. Sadeh is a mid-winter festival where bonfires are lit to honor fire and to defeat the forces of darkness, frost, and cold. People gather and pray, and then they will hold each other’s hands, form a circle and dance around the fire.
- Basant Panchami – Hindu**
Northern India heralds the approach of spring and yellow colored clothes are symbolically worn. Even the food is colored yellow by using saffron. This festival honors Saraswati, the Goddess of learning, Wisdom and the Creative arts.

Source: The majority of the Diversity/Cultural Celebrations with permission are from Creative Cultural Communications 2020 Diversity Calendar.

The Human Diversity Quiz below is from http://www.pbs.org/race/004_HumanDiversity/004_00-home.htm.

When it comes to human diversity, what differences really make a difference?

Answers are below the questions.

1. Approximately how old are modern humans:
 - A. 170,000 years
 - B. 40,000 years
 - C. 70,000 years
 - D. 1.2 million years
 - E. 5 million years

2. Which group has the most genetic variation?
 - A. Humans
 - B. Chimpanzees
 - C. Penguins
 - D. Fruit flies
 - E. Elephants

3. What causes genetic variation in humans?
 - A. Mutation
 - B. Genetic drift
 - C. Natural selection
 - D. Sexual selection
 - E. Environment

4. Which two present-day populations are most likely to be genetically similar?
 - A. Italians and Ethiopians
 - B. Senegalese and Kenyans
 - C. Italians and Swedes
 - D. Chinese and Lakota (Sioux)
 - E. Saudi Arabians and Ethiopians

5. What caused differences in skin color to evolve?
 - A. The environment
 - B. Natural selection
 - C. Sexual selection
 - D. Tannin oil
 - E. We don't know

6. If you know a person's skin color, what can you predict about them?
 - A. Their blood type
 - B. Their height
 - C. The likelihood they will get certain inherited diseases
 - D. Whether or not they have musical talent
 - E. None of the above

7. An individual from which of the following countries is most likely to carry the sickle cell trait?
 - A. Ireland
 - B. Greece
 - C. South Africa
 - D. Samoa
 - E. Mexico

8. Which of the following is likely to be your ancestor?
 - A. Nefertiti
 - B. Julius Caesar
 - C. Qin Shi Huang, first emperor of China
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above

9. Which continent has the greatest human genetic diversity?
 - A. Europe
 - B. Asia
 - C. North America
 - D. South America
 - E. Africa

10. If a catastrophe wiped out everyone except people in Asia, how much of the total genetic variation in our species would be left?
 - A. 50%
 - B. 38%
 - C. 94%
 - D. 21%
 - E. 74%

Answers to the above questions:

1. **A-170,000 years ago:** The earliest hominids evolved from apes about 5 million years ago, but modern humans (*homo sapiens*) didn't emerge until 150,000-200,000 years ago, in eastern Africa. Our species first left Africa only about 70,000 years ago and quickly spread across the entire world. All of us are descended from these African ancestors.

2. **D-Fruit flies:** Fruit flies have existed for a long time and they have a short life span, so lots of genetic mutations have accumulated over millions of generations. Modern humans are a relatively young species and we have always moved, mixed, and mated, so we are one of the most genetically alike of all species.

3. **A-Mutation:** Genetic drift and natural selection act to distribute traits, but new variants arise only through mutations – copying errors during reproduction. We all have the same 35,000 or so genes, but some come in different forms, called alleles, producing variations like A, B, or O blood type. Some mutations are harmful, leading to stillbirth or deadly diseases like spinal bifida. Those that are neutral or cause an evolutionary advantage are passed on and spread through successive generations.

4. **E-Saudi Arabians and Ethiopians:** Populations that live near each other tend to be more alike than populations that live far apart. We tend to think of Saudi Arabians and Ethiopians as different races, but they are most similar because there has been more recent “gene flow” (intermixing) between these two groups. Often when genetic variation seems to follow “racial” lines, it is more accurately explained by geographic distance.

5. **E-We don't know:** People in tropical areas tend to be darker, while northern and southern populations are lighter. Some scientists think this is a result of natural selection in response to different levels of ultraviolet (UV) light. Other scientists believe that superficial physical differences arose from cultural preferences, an evolutionary force known as sexual selection.

6. **E-None of the Above:** Most traits are governed by different genes, so they're inherited independently. The presence of one trait doesn't necessarily signal the presence of another trait. We think people come packaged into groups. Even – as anthropologist Jon Marks jokes, “color-coded for our convenience” but they don't. Visual traits, skin color, for example – tell us nothing about internal differences or abilities.

7. **B-Greece:** We often think sickle cell is a “racial” disease affecting people of African descent, but it evolved as a trait that confers resistance to malaria. It occurs in people whose ancestor are from regions where malaria was once common, like the Mediterranean, Arabia, Turkey, Southern Asia, and western and central Africa, but not areas such as southern Africa. Ancestry, not race, is a better indicator of whether one carries the markers for sickle cell, Tay Sachs, porphyria and other genetic diseases.
8. **D-All of the above:** We each have 2 parents, 4 grandparents, 8 great-grandparents. Steven Olson and Joseph Chang have shown that if we go far enough back in time, only about 30 generations, we each have a billion potential ancestors, more than the population of the earth at the time. This means that any historical person living 1600 years ago whose children had children is likely to be one your ancestors. Olson writes that because of human migration and mating, “the DNA now in our cells consists of bits and pieces of DNA from thousands of people’s cells a millennia ago.
9. **E-Africa:** All modern humans originated from Africa, and we spent most of our evolution as a species together there. All the other populations of the world can be seen as a subset of Africans. Every human trait found elsewhere can also be found in Africa, with the exception of a few recent variations favored by the environment, sexual selection, or drift-such as light skin.
10. **C-94%:** If only the Hmong or Hakka people survived, we would still retain about 85% of our genetic variation. That’s because more variation is within rather than between “races.” On average, any local population contains 85% of all human genetic variation, and any continent contains 94%. This is because human have always migrated and mixed their genes. Two random Swedes, for example are likely to be genetically different