

December 2018 Spokane Area Diversity/Cultural Events

National Universal Human Rights Month

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the UN in 1948 as a response to the Nazi holocaust and to set a standard by which the human rights activities of all nations, rich and poor alike, are to be measured.

The United Nations has declared an **International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women**. From November 25th through December 10th, Human Rights Day, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is to raise public awareness and mobilizing people everywhere to bring about change. The 2018 theme is Orange the World: #HearMeToo. These dates were chosen to commemorate the three Mirabal sisters, who were political activists under Dominican ruler Rafael Trujillo (1930-1961) who ordered their brutal assassinate in 1960. **Join the campaign! You can participate in person or on social media via the following hashtags:** #OrangeUrWorld, #OrangeTheWorld, #HearMeToo, #EndVAW. For more information, visit their website at <http://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>.

The Inland Northwest and the Great War: A Centennial Commemoration of world War I

November 11, 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, which ended World War I. While the war was a global conflict, it impacted communities across the United States, including Spokane. The exhibit features artifacts and photographs from the MAC's collection as well as special programs to mark the centennial of The Armistice.

Dates: October 6, 2018 through January 27, 2019

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

Location: Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, 2316 W. First Ave

Cost: \$10.00 adult, \$8.00 seniors and college students with ID, \$5.00 children ages 6-17

For more information visit their website at <https://www.northwestmuseum.org/exhibits/current-exhibits/titanic.cfm> or call 509.456.3931.

Ryan Feddersen: Phantom Lands

This exhibition features recent works in a variety of scales and mediums that focus on resistance and resilience in the face of development, displacement, and destruction. Feddersen approaches these topics with an emphasis on humor, play, and creative engagement as a way to create opportunities for personal introspection and discovery.

Dates: October 2018 through January 20, 2019.

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

Location: Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, 2316 W. First Ave

Cost: \$10.00 adult, \$8.00 seniors and college students with ID, \$5.00 children ages 6-17

For more information visit their website at <https://www.northwestmuseum.org/exhibits/current-exhibits/titanic.cfm> or call 509.456.3931.

As Grandmother Taught: Women, Tradition and Plateau Art

Coiled and twined basketry and beaded hats, pouches, bags, dolls, horse regalia, baby boards, and dresses alongside vintage photos of Plateau women wearing or alongside their traditional, handmade clothing and objects, with works by Leanne Campbell, HollyAnna CougarTracks DeCoteau Littlebull and Bernadine Phillips.

Dates: August 2018 through December 2019.

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

Location: Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, 2316 W. First Ave

Cost: \$10.00 adult, \$8.00 seniors, \$5.00 children ages 6-17, \$8.00 college students with ID.

For more information visit their website at <https://www.northwestmuseum.org/exhibits/current-exhibits/titanic.cfm> 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>.

Live Irish Music

Dates: September 2, 2018-March 31, 2019 – every Sunday

Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: O’Doherty’s Irish Grille, 525 W Spokane Falls Blvd

For more information visit <http://beta.odohertyspub.com/> or call 509.747.0322.

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-5:00 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 including but not limited to: hip hop, reggae, indie, metal, folk, pop, electronic, oriental jazz and some of the greatest classics 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>.

Healing Racism: Multicultural Responses in Local Context

Presented by Ana Hernández, a cultural conversationalist. Learn active listening skills, how to engage in effective communication across cultural lines, and cultivating spiritual practices to sustain the work of healing racism.

Date: Saturday, December 1, 2018

Time: Doors open at 9:00 am, 9:30 am – 5:00 pm

Location: St. John’s Cathedral, 127 E 12th Ave

Cost: \$10.00, register online at www.spokanediocese.org.

For more information call 509. 624.3191, visit their website at www.spokanediocese.org. Co-sponsored by Province VIII of the Episcopal Church (Anti-Racism Network), the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane, and the Cathedral of St John the Evangelist. Lunch provided.

League of Women Voters of Washington Empowering Voters – Defending Democracy

Workshop for learning how to fully exercise your voting rights and access your legislators.

Date: Saturday, December 1, 2018

Time: 9:30 am

Location: The Women's Club. 1428 W Ninth Ave

Cost: \$25.00/adults, \$10.00/students 16 and older, \$5.00/scholarship discount.

For more information call 509.326.8026, visit their website at www.info@lwvspokane.org. Co-sponsored by The League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area. Open to everyone. Registration includes lunch.

“Warriors Heart to Art”

Veterans will display sculptures, songs, poetry and paintings. This event follows a five-day intensive retreat focused on veterans affected by PTSD and using creative arts to tell their stories.

Date: Saturday, December 1, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane, 4340 W. fort George Wright Dr.

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information go to www.warriorshearttoart.org.

Winter Songs - Salish School of Spokane

Teachers and students will perform hand drum songs and songs on their big drum in Salish. Learn a few words of Salish and maybe hear a story.

Date: Wednesday, December 5, 2018

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Shadle Public Library, 2111 W Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit their website at <https://www.spokanelibrary.org/calendar/#/?i=2>.

Around the Table

Speaker: Mandy Manning with guest performance “Neema” African Refugee Choir. A thousand remarkable stories. Benefit dinner for refugees and immigrants.

Date: Wednesday, December 5, 2018

Time: 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: The Davenport Grand Hotel Ballroom, 333 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Cost: \$100.00 per person or \$650 for a table of eight.

For more information visit www.worldreliefspokane.org. Sponsored by World Relief.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, December 6, 2018

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/>.

Holiday Nights at Gaiser Conservatory

The Gaiser Conservatory is turned into a Christmas wonderland with over 40,000 lights covering the plants.

Dates: December 7, 2018 – December 16, 2018

Time: noon – 7:30 pm

Location: Manito Park, Gaiser Conservatory, 4 W 21st Street

Cost: Free

For more information visit <http://www.thefriendsofmanito.org/event/holiday-lights/> or call 509.625.6692. Best viewing is after dark.

14th Annual Gingerbread Build Off – Christ Kitchen Fundraiser

This annual holiday event features teams of the region's finest bakers and architects competing to build the most beautiful and imaginative gingerbread houses. Children are also invited to decorate their own gingerbread masterpieces.

Date: Sunday, December 9, 2018

Time: Competition 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, children's activity 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location: The Davenport Grand, 333 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Cost: Free, \$7.00 for children's gingerbread house kit

For more information visit their website at <http://christkitchen.org/events/>. A Proceeds benefit Christ Clinic/Christ Kitchen, which helps women in poverty. The Gingerbread house will be on display until December 24, 2018.

14th Annual Avé Concert

A concert filled with music of devotion and works inspired by Mary that span the centuries, f

Date: Sunday, December 9, 2018

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Base Chapel, Mukogawa Commons, 4000 W Randolph Rd

Cost: Free, donations accepted

For more information email music@hnmc.org or call 326.9216. followed by a reception with apple cider and ginger snaps.

Affiniti – Celtic Christmas Concert

Affiniti, a trio of harp, violin and soprano voice, have been performing together for 10 and will feature classical and Celtic music and haunting and uplifting Christmas songs.

Date: Sunday, December 9, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Bing Crosby Theater, 901 W Sprague Ave.

Cost: \$13.00-22.00

For more information call 509.496.4866 or visit their website at <http://www.bingcrosbytheater.com/events/1555/affiniti-a-celtic-christmas>.

Ornament Making and Decorating

Create and decorate a unique ornament to display your holiday spirit. All materials are provided, while supplies last. All ages.

Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: North Spokane Library, 44 E Hawthorne Rd

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8350 or visit their website at <http://sclcd.org>.

Hispanic Business / Professional Association (HBPA) monthly luncheon

Speakers: Maren Murphy, Abby Martin, and Katie Myers, Office of Neighborhood Services

Date: Wednesday, December 12, 2018

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 p.m. social/networking, lunch and speaker/program

Location: Perkins Restaurant, Downtown at Division/Olive

Cost: Around \$10.00-\$15.00 if you choose to order lunch

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

Ornament Making and Decorating

Create and decorate a unique ornament to display your holiday spirit. All materials are provided, while supplies last. All ages.

Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: Otis Orchards Library, 22324 E Wellesley Ave, Otis Orchards

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8390 or visit their website at <http://sclcd.org>.

Diverse Voices Writing Group**Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018**

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/>.**Ornament Making and Decorating**

Create and decorate a unique ornament to display your holiday spirit. All materials are provided, while supplies last. All ages.

Date: Saturday, December 15, 2018

Time: 11:00 am

Location: Argonne Library, 4322 N Argonne Rd, Millwood

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8390 or visit their website at <http://sclcd.org>.**TubaChristmas**

TubaChristmas is an international event where Tuba and Euphonium Players of all ages join together to perform Christmas carols.

Date: Saturday, December 15, 2018

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: STA Plaza, 701 W Riverside Ave

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.979.3988 or email byme@cet.com.**23rd Annual Christmas Concert - Singing Nuns present "Christmas Around the Globe"**

The Singing Nuns presents their annual Christmas concert singing songs from around the world. The Museum and gift shop will be open.

Dates: Saturday and Sunday, December 15 & 16, 2018

Time: 2:00 pm (Saturday & Sunday) and 7:00 pm (Saturday)

Location: Mt. St. Michael, 8500 North Saint Michaels Rd

Cost: \$12.00 - \$15.00

For more information and to purchase tickets visit their website at <http://singingnuns.com/> or call 509.467.0986. Shuttle services will be available from URM Gate #1 on North Freya beginning one hour before each show.**NAACP General Membership Meeting****Date: Monday, December 17, 2018**

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: Community Building, 35 W Main Ave

Cost: Free, meeting open to everyone

For more information contact spkncpbr@gmail.com or visit their website at <http://spokanenaacp.com/>.**Ornament Making and Decorating**

Create and decorate a unique ornament to display your holiday spirit. All materials are provided, while supplies last. All ages.

Date: Thursday, December 20, 2018

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: Spokane Valley Library, 12004 E Main Ave, Spokane Valley

Cost: Free

For more information call 509.893.8400 or visit their website at <http://sclcd.org>.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, December 20, 2018

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/>.

Winterfest, A Celebration of Holiday Traditions

Meet representatives of local cultural organizations and view Christmas trees decorated by the Hispanic Business | Professional Association (HBPA), The Filipino-American Association, Daughters of Norway, Spokane's Bulgaria/Russian Community, American Italian Club, German American Society, Spokane Guam Community, Spokane Chinese Community, African-American Community, The Coeur d'Alene Tribe, and more to be announced.

Date: Friday, December 21, 2018

Time: 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Location: River Park Square Mall

For more information contact charity@thefamilyguide.org or call 509.928.9664. Thank you to the generosity of the following: City of Spokane, Spokane Downtown Library, River Park Square, Value Village, The Coeur d'Alene Casino, Banner Bank, Numerica Credit Union, Kind Snacks, Luigi's Italian Restaurant, De Leon Foods, Azteca Mexican Restaurant, Thai Bamboo Restaurants, and BECU.

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, December 22, 2018 (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.

Winterfest, A Celebration of Holiday Traditions

View display tables representing how various cultures ring in the New Year. Live performances and sample traditional new Year's food & beverages from participating cultural organizations. Represented organizations include the Persian Community, Southeast Indian Cultural Association, Hispanic Business | Professional Association (HBPA), Spokane Chinese Community, The Coeur d'Alene Tribes, Japanese Community, Spokane Tai Fellowship Group, and more to be announced.

Date: Saturday, December 29, 2018

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Spokane Downtown Library

For more information contact charity@thefamilyguide.org or call 509.928.9664. Thank you to the generosity of the following: City of Spokane, Spokane Downtown Library, River Park Square, Value Village, The Coeur d'Alene Casino, Banner Bank, Numerica Credit Union, Kind Snacks, Luigi's Italian Restaurant, De Leon Foods, Azteca Mexican Restaurant, Thai Bamboo Restaurants, and BECU.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, December 27, 2018

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/>.

Save the Date

The Controversy of Valladolid

Imagine a time when the Catholic Church had the right to determine whether or not you were human in a 16th-century Spanish monastery, the fate of millions of indigenous American natives from an ocean away hangs precariously in the balance. This play by Jean Claude Carrière brings to light the shocking real-life debates whose repercussions are still felt today.

Dates: Friday-Thursday, January 11-17, 2019

Location: Stage Left Theater, 108 W 3rd Ave

Women’s March – Spokane

Date: Saturday, January 19, 2019

Location: Spokane Convention Center

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Go Red for Women Luncheon

Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Location: Spokane Convention Center

13th Annual Viva Vino & Brew (Scholarship Fundraiser)

Food provided by De Leon’s, music, silent and live auction to be followed by dancing,

Date: Saturday, February 23, 2019

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 email hbpspokane@gmail.com.

WSU College of Education’s 15th Annual International Globalization, Diversity and Education Conference.

Theme “Healing the Mind/Body/Soul: Community, Activism, and Justice in Education”

Dates: February 28-March 1, 2019

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/.

December 2018 International/National Cultural Celebrations

December 1 Rosa Parks Day – USA

Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 for defying segregation by refusing to give up her seat on the bus for a white passenger. The incident led to a year-long boycott of the city’s buses and the end of segregation on municipal buses throughout the southern U.S.

World AIDS Day – UN

This day is designed by the World Health Organization and the United Nations to increase awareness and education of AIDS. Today, over 41 million people are living with HIV/AIDS.

- December 1** **Independence Day – Portugal**
Became independent again in 1640 from Spanish rule that began in 1580.
- National Day – Romania**
Great Union Day is the national holiday of Romania, celebrating the unification of Romanian provinces (Transylvania with Romania).
- December 2** **Hanukkah- Jewish (December 2-10)**
Begins sundown at 6:00 pm. The Festival of Lights is celebrated for eight days. Approximately in 164 B.C. Maccabees, a small group of Jews fighting for religious freedom won victory over the Syrians. The legend goes that to rededicate eighth temple, they found only one jar of holy oil and miraculously the candelabra remained lit for 8 days. The eight-candle menorah is lighted. Special readings and songs of praise focus on liberty and freedom.
- International Day for the Abolition of Slavery – UN**
The focus of this day is on eradicating contemporary forms of slavery, such as trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation, the worst forms of child labor, forced marriage, and the forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict.
- First Sunday of Advent – Christian**
The Christian church year begins with Advent (from the Latin adventus meaning “coming” or “arrival”) which is also a time when Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.
- National Day - United Arab Emirates (UAE)**
- National Day - Laos**
The establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1975.
- December 5** **Discovery Day – Haiti**
Marks the day Christopher Columbus found Haiti on his second voyage to the New World in 1492.
- International Volunteer Day for Economic & Social Development - UN**
Recognizes the contributions of volunteers as first responders in times of crisis. Volunteers are present, all around us, answering calls in times of need, helping save lives today, and supporting those who want to continue living their lives with dignity tomorrow. 2017 Theme: Volunteers Act First. Here. Everywhere.
- December 6** **St. Nicholas Day – International**
Celebrates the patron St. Nicholas of Russia, a Christian bishop from what is now Turkey, known for his good deeds. Being known as a protector of children, the tradition of leaving shoes out in the hopes of receiving treats is practiced in the Dutch, German, and Eastern European communities.
- Independence Day – Finland**
Celebrate Finland's declaration of independence from the Russian Republic in 1917.
- Constitution Day – Spain**
The Constitution was originally ratified after a referendum on 6 December 1978 and was signed by King Juan Carlos I on 27 December 1978. The signing of the Constitution marked the culmination of the Spanish transition to democracy after the death of the former Head of State, Francisco Franco, in 1975.

- December 7 International Civil Aviation Day – UN**
 Helps generate and reinforce worldwide awareness of the importance of international civil aviation to the social and economic development of States, and of the unique role of ICAO in helping States to cooperate and realize a truly global rapid transit network at the service of all mankind.
- This day in 1941 commemorates the attack of the Imperial Japanese Navy and Air Force on the armed forces of the United States at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, killing two thousand people. The attack brought the U.S. into World War II.
- December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Christian/Catholic**
 According to the Catholic Church, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was conceived without Original Sin in the womb of her mother, St. Anne.
- Bodhi Day – Buddhist**
 In Japanese Zen, Bodhi Day is called “*Rohatsu*” and is the observance of enlightenment of the historical Buddha. Zen monasteries observe this day with a meditation retreat lasting several days. On the last night of a *Rohatsusesshin*, monks and students often sit in meditation until dawn, as the Buddha did 25 centuries ago.
- December 9 Independence Day – Tanzania**
 This day celebrates the end of British rule in Tanganyika in 1961.
- International Anti-corruption Day - UN**
 This day is observed to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively
- December 10 Human Rights Day – UN**
 Established in 1948 by the United Nations to commemorate the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which sets forth basic rights and freedoms to which all are entitled.
- Constitution Day – Thailand**
 Celebrates the beginning of a Constitutional Monarchy in Thailand in 1932.
- December 11 International Mountain Day – UN**
 Covering around 22 percent of the earth’s land surface, mountains play a critical role in moving the world towards sustainable economic growth. They not only provide sustenance and wellbeing to 915 million mountain people around the world, representing 13 percent of global population, but mountains also indirectly benefit billions more living downstream. 2018 these are “#MountainsMatter”.
- December 12 Fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe – Mexico**
 The Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to Juan Diego, a Christianized Indian at Tepeyac Hill outside of Mexico City. She appeared three times on a site considered as a spiritual center by Mexican Indians. In one of the visions, the Virgin Mary told Diego to build a church on the site, in another vision she told Diego to pick some roses that were miraculously growing on the hill. He did, then he put them in his cloak and took them to the bishop. When Diego opened his cloak, the image of a dark-haired, brown skinned woman was imprinted on the inside of the cloak. The site where the roses were growing was renamed Guadalupe and the image on the cloak became known as *Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe* or “Our Lady of Guadalupe”.

- December 12** **Jamhuri (Independence Day) – Kenya**
Jamhuri is the Swahili word for “republic”, this date marks Kenya’s establishment date as a republic in 1964.
- Masá’Il (15th month) – Bahá’i**
- December 13** **Aga Khan’s Birthday – Islam Ismaili**
Religious head of the Ismaili sect.
- December 13** **Luciadagen/St. Lucia Day – Sweden**
St. Lucia, the “Queen of Light” is celebrated on this day and a candlestick parade takes place in her honor.
- December 15** **Bill of Rights Day – USA**
The first ten amendments to the United States Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights. Among the rights protected are freedom of speech, the right to bear arms and protection from unreasonable search.
- December 16** **Las Posadas – Mexico (December 16-24)**
A nine-day traditional Mexican festival celebration. Processions of pilgrims go door to door asking posada, which means shelter commemorating the search by Mary and Joseph for shelter.
- Bijoy Dibash – Bangladesh**
Signifies independence after a 9-month Liberation War against Pakistan in 1971. East Pakistan became Bangladesh.
- December 17** **National Day – Bhutan**
In commemoration of the day in 1907 when Gongsar Wangchuk was crowned the first king over a united Bhutan.
- December 18** **International Migrants day- UN**
The UN recognizes the contributions and celebrate the vitality of the world’s 258 million migrants.
- Independence Day – Qatar**
Unification of Qatar in 1878.
- December 20** **International Human Solidary Day - UN**
Celebrates unity in diversity. It also aims to remind people on the importance of solidarity in working towards eradicating poverty.
- December 21** **Winter Solstice – International**
In the Northern Hemisphere, this day is the official start of winter. In the Southern Hemisphere, it is official start of summer. Between the equator and the Arctic Circle, the sun rises and sets farthest south on the horizon for the year and the period of daylight is at its shortest (12 hours, 8 minutes) at the equator, decreasing to zero at the Arctic Circle.
- Yule – Wicca**
During the winter solstice – the longest night of the year - the rebirth of the sun which is life sustaining is celebrated. The Yule tree is decorated with fruit and candles are lit to represent the sun.

- December 21 Tohji-Tasai – Shinto**
The sun is of central importance in Japan and this day celebrates the end of the Yin period of the sun in its declining strength and the growing power of the Yang period.
- December 23 Joseph Smith’s Birthday - Mormon**
He was the American Mormon Leader, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.
- Heisei Emperor’s Birthday – Japan**
This is the current Emperor’s birthday. His reign has been names Heisei (Succeed at Peace).
- December 24 Independence Day – Libya**
In 1951 when Libya declared its freedom from British-French “oversight”.
- December 25 Christmas Day – Christian**
This day celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ over 2000 years ago. Customs include lighting candles, exchanging gifts and using evergreen decorations to celebrate. This day is the most widely observed Christian festival of the year.
- Navidades – Puerto Rico**
Marks the beginning of the Christmas season and ends with Three Kings Day on January 6th.
- Jinnah’s Birthday – Pakistan**
Mahomedali Jinnahbhai (12/25/1876-9/11/1648) was the founder of Pakistan.
- December 26 Kwanzaa – African-American, USA (December 26-January 1)**
A seven-day celebration started in 1966 to honor Americans of African ancestry. Kwanzaa means “fresh fruits of the harvest” in Swahili. Each day is dedicated to one of seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. Families have African-style feasts and exchange gifts.
- Boxing Day – Canada, Ireland, UK**
It was once a day when the churches’ poor boxes were opened. In Britain, traditionally a day when gifts (boxes) are given to servants, tradespeople or others who have provided services.
- Death of the Prophet Zarathushtra – Zoroastrian**
Commemorates the death of the founder of the Zoroastrian faith.
- Wren Day/St. Stephen’s Day – Ireland**
On Wren Day, boys in wren costumes go from house to house with a captured wren, singing songs and gathering coins. These coins help to pay for a big celebratory feast in the evening. St. Stephen is remembered for being the first Christian martyr.
- Junkanoo – Bahamas**
A festival that combines elements of Mardi Gras, mummers’ parades and ancient African tribal rituals. Continues on January 1.
- December 30 Rizal Day – Philippines**
Celebrates the Philippines’ national hero José Protasio Rizal Mercado y Alonso Realonda (Dr. José P. Rizal) on the anniversary of his death in 1896. Dr. Rizal was a very prominent advocate for reforms during the Spanish colonial era.

December 31 New Year's Eve – International

Celebrates the coming New Year bidding a farewell to the departing year and celebrating the joy, hope, and peace for the year ahead.

Omisoka – Japan

To usher in the New Year, families clean their homes, eat toshi-koshi buckwheat noodles in the hope that one's life will be stretched out as long as these noodles. As midnight approaches, Shinto temples around the country begin ringing out the old year, sounding the temple bell 108 times because according to them, human beings have 108 worldly desires which are removed by striking the bell.

December 31 Gahambar Mailyarem – Zoroastrian

This day celebrates the creation of animals. It is also a time for the equitable sharing of food.

Hogmanay – Scotland (December 30, 2018, 7:00 pm to January 1, 2019, 7:00 pm)

The Scottish New Year, Hogmanay is derived from the French phrase meaning 'Lead to the mistletoe' Fire ceremonies, banging of pots and pans at midnight and bringing bread, salt and coal to their hosts to symbolize life, hospitality and warmth mark this exuberant occasion.

Source: With permission from Creative Cultural Communications, Multicultural Calendar 2018
<http://usa.multiculturalcalendar.com/v/home.html>.

As you know, this calendar has 3-parts- 1) Spokane events; 2) National/International celebrations; 3) Information or an article of interest, i.e. communities of color resources/organizations, books, etc. As of November, I am highlighting various diverse communities/organizations in Spokane. This is where you come in. I am hoping that you or someone in your organization/committee is willing to write information for your organization to include its history, purpose of your organization, current activities (please feel free to include recent past activities), meeting days/times and location etc. Incorporate anything you want the general public to know about your organization. If you are a non-profit, is your makeup of volunteers and/or paid members, etc. Include your website/Facebook address, contact person(s) email, name of your president/director/chair, etc. You can decide how long you want your "information" to be, but please limit it to no more than one page (single space, 10 font). Thank you.

December's organization to be highlighted is Hispanic Business/Professional Association and Foundation:

**Hispanic Business/Professional Association (HBPA) of Spokane
Hispanic Business/Professional Association (HBPA) Foundation of the Inland Northwest**

The Hispanic Business/Professional Association (HBPA) of Spokane began in the early 1990s and is an all-volunteer Association. You do not need to be Hispanic/Latinx to be a member or join us for our events. Our Association goals are:

1. Acknowledge and encourage our rich Hispanic/Latinx culture.
2. Support and promote Hispanic/Latinx persons in business, professional, and leadership positions.
3. Encourage the educational advancement of Hispanic/Latinxs.
4. Support the formation and activities of the non-profit HBPA Foundation, and administer the activities of scholarship fundraising and the annual graduation and recognition ceremony.

We held our first Graduate Awards Banquet Ceremony on May 9, 1996 at Spokane Community College. The HBPA president was Michele Maher and the guest speakers were Ralph Munro, WA Secretary of State and Hugo Abel Castro-Bojorquez, Consul General de Mexico. At this ceremony, 63 graduates (and families) from Spokane County high schools and colleges/universities were listed in the program.

Every ceremony, now called “Graduate and Young Scholar Recognition Ceremony” has been held in partnership with Spokane Community College and on May 2, 2019, HBPA will celebrate their 24th Recognition Ceremony. The ceremony recognizes all Hispanic/Latinx students graduating from high schools and colleges/universities in Spokane County and young scholars, students in grades 7-11 with a 3.0 gpa. Recognition of Young Scholars were added to the ceremony in 2001. On May 3, 2018, 135 graduates (and families) from Spokane County high schools and colleges/universities and 59 young scholars (and families) from grades 7th-11th attended the ceremony. The ceremony is held the first Thursday in May. Graduates who attend are given a stole to wear to their own high school or college/university graduation.

Scholarships have been awarded every year since the Recognition Ceremony was held. The first scholarship recipient was Cullen Chacon in 1996. He was awarded a \$500.00 scholarship. In 2002, in partnership with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, HBPA awarded our first \$1,000 scholarship. This partnership continued until May 2006. In 2018, HBPA awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to a total of 14-students in high school or college/university. The high school scholarship recipients attended Central Valley, Mead, Rogers and West Valley. The college/university students attend EWU and Gonzaga. Since 1996, HBPA has awarded over 125 scholarships averaging between \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year for the past 10 years, totaling over \$120,000.

The HBPA scholarship application is usually available the end of January/early February and due around the second week in April. A scholarship committee of HBPA members awards the funds determined by the Foundation for the May Recognition Ceremony.

The HBPA Foundation of the Inland Northwest is a non-profit organization since 2006; affiliated with HBPA and provides college scholarships funds, promotes the annual Recognition Ceremony to celebrate educational success among Hispanic/Latino graduating students, and recognizes the achievement of Hispanic/Latino youth in 7th through 11th grades with a GPA of 3.0 or above.

In order to award scholarships, HBPA will have its 13th annual fundraiser Viva Vino and Brew on February 23, 2019 at the Shriners Event Center. The first Viva Vino fundraiser was held February 2007, at the former Ridpath Hotel. Funds raised at our annual fundraiser are awarded to students the following year. Viva Vino and Brew is a wine and beer tasting event with food provided by De Leon Foods. In addition, we have a silent and live auction and music by Mariachi Las Aguilas from Eastern Washington University. To purchase tickets for our event, go to <https://hbpavivavino.brownpapertickets.com/>.

HBPA has staffed a Mexico booth at Unity in the Community Culture Villages held in August for over twelve years. We share our culture along with an activity. For the past several years our activity has been making Mexican Cascarones. Cascarones are confetti filled egg shells that have been dyed. The tradition is to break the cascarones over a person’s head. You will often see this activity during the Easter holiday in Mexico and Mexican American communities. In the past, we have made Ojo de Dios, paper Mexican flowers and mini piñatas.

Another event that HBPA sponsors is a community-wide Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) in partnership with the Spokane Valley Hazen & Jaeger Funeral Home. On November 2, 2018, we celebrate our 4th-annual Dia de los Muertos at Hazen & Jaeger Valley on Pines. We celebrate family and friends who have passed with an altar and their photos. In addition, we have food, music, and activities for children (and adults). This family event is open to all; we had over 400 people attend this year.

HBPA will participate in Spokane’s first Winterfest in December. Want to learn more about HBPA, join us and other community organizations on December 21, 2018 (3:00 pm – 7:00 pm) for Christmas Traditions at Riverpark Square and New Year Traditions on December 29, 2018 (1:00 pm – 4:00 pm) at the Spokane Downtown Library.

In conjunction with the Spokane Regional Health District, HBPA has applied for and received a \$7,000 grant from Empire Health Services to conduct a survey/study of the health needs of the Hispanic/Latinx community in Spokane and Adams Counties. Once they learned of the grant, Providence Health Care quickly joined in and contributed an additional \$3,000 to conduct this survey. The parameters of the survey are being developed and

the community will soon be approached to answer survey questions which will be used to develop additional resources for addressing local health needs in our Hispanic/Latinx community. If anyone is interested in assisting with the implementation of this project, please email us at hbspokane@gmail.com.

HBPA meets September to June of each year (except May) on the second Wednesday of the month from 11:30 am -1:00 pm at Perkins restaurant on Division and Olive. HBPA Foundation meets quarterly. HBPA newsletter is sent out to our members and community members (per their request). The newsletter is sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month and can also be read on our website www.hbspokane.net.

HBPA and HBPA Foundation 2018 president is Larry Valadez, vice president is Guillermo Espinosa, Secretary is Susana Lopez, treasurer is Maria Escobedo and membership is Daniel Fuentes. Foundation director is Yvonne Montoya Zamora. For 2019, HBPA and HBPA Foundation president is Isabel Mazcot, vice president is Lili Navarrete, secretary is Fernanda Mazcot, treasurer is Maria Escobedo, and membership is Yvonne Montoya Zamora. Foundation directors are Susana Lopez and Larry Valadez.

Dues for the Association for the calendar year are \$30.00 for an individual, \$50.00 for an organization, and students are free. Website is www.hbspokane.net, email is hbspokane@gmail.com and Facebook is <https://www.facebook.com/HBPASPOKANE/>.

HBPA is also a founding member of the Spokane Coalition of Color along with the NAACP and the Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition of Spokane. Facebook is <https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneCoalitionOfColor/>. In addition, HBPA has members participating on various Spokane area organizations such as AHANA and United Way.