



CULTURAL OBSERVANCES

AND AWARENESS EVENTS

OBSERVANCE/ AWARENESS EVENTS	DATE	AUTHORIZATION	SOURCE/THEME
Martin Luther King's Birthday	16 January 2017	Public Law 98-144	Source: The King Center <i>2017 Theme: Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not A Day Off!!</i> (This theme does not change.)
National African American/Black History Month	1-28 February 2017	Public Law 99-244	Source: Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) <i>2017 Theme: The Crisis in Black Education</i>
Women's History Month	1-31 March 2017	Public Law 100-9	Source: National Women's History Project <i>2017 Theme: Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business</i>
National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month	1-30 April 2017	DoD Directive 6495.01 – Department policy on sexual assault prevention and response. Highlights responsibilities for training.	Source: Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) <i>2017 Theme: Not Yet Available</i>
Holocaust Remembrance Day Days of Remembrance	24 April 2017 23 – 30 April 2017	Public Law 96-388 and Presidential Proclamation	Source: Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute <i>2017 Theme: Not Yet Available</i>
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month	1-31 May 2017	Title 36, U.S. Code, Section 102.	Source: Federal Asian Pacific American Council (FAPAC) <i>2017 Theme: Not Yet Available</i>
LGBT Pride Month	1-30 June 2017	Presidential proclamation (historically published the beginning of June)	Source: DoD Pride <i>2017 Theme: Not Yet Available</i>
Women's Equality Day	26 August 2017	Joint Resolution of Congress, 1971 and Presidential Proclamation	Source: Women's History Project <i>2017 Theme: Celebrating Women's Right to Vote</i> (This theme does not change.)

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National Hispanic Heritage Month	15 September- 15 October 2016	Title 36, U.S. Code, Section 126.	Source: National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers 2016 Theme: <i>Hispanic Americans: Embracing, Enriching, and Enabling America</i>
National Disability Employment Awareness Month	1-31 October 2016	Title 36, U.S. Code, Section 121.	Source: Department of Labor 2016 Theme: <i>#InclusionWorks</i>
National American Indian Heritage Month	1-30 November 2016	Public Law 102-188, Executive Order 13270 and Presidential Proclamation	Source: Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) 2016 Theme: <i>Serving Our Nations</i>

PLEASE NOTE: On behalf of the Department of Defense office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and the Office of Diversity Management and Equal Opportunity (ODMEO), the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute provides these themes for national observances on this compiled listing for use in developing special observance programs. DEOMI does not create these themes, but this listing provides the source of each of them. While these themes are representative of the Department of Defense, this does not preclude an organization from creating their own theme or using previously published themes. Organizations are not required to limit their special observances to just those reflected here. Others may be conducted providing the same local procedures are used for research, planning, implementation and evaluation as any other special observance. Organizations are reminded that special observances are conducted to recognize the continuous achievements of all Americans to American culture and to increase awareness, mutual respect, and understanding. They are designed to enhance cross-cultural and cross-gender awareness and promote harmony among all military members, their families, and the civilian workforce. For more information about how to conduct a special observance, please visit: www.deomi.org.