

# About Us (Welcome)

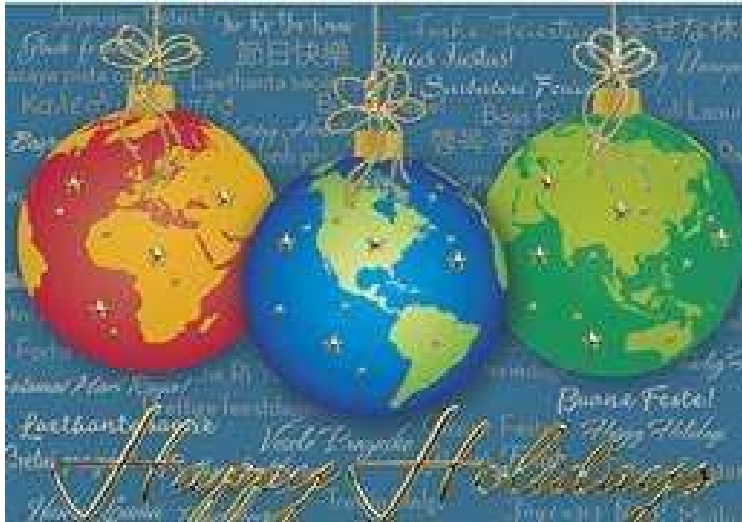
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## Diversity Corner

Please visit our [Diversity Corner Archives](https://babta.org/Diversity_Corner_Archives) ([https://babta.org/Diversity\\_Corner\\_Archives](https://babta.org/Diversity_Corner_Archives)) page to view previous posts.



December is a month rich with holidays celebrated across the world, each bringing unique traditions and cultural significance. Here's a look at some notable holidays:

### Religious Holidays

- Christmas (December 25)

Celebrated by Christians worldwide, Christmas honors the birth of Jesus Christ. Traditions include decorating trees, exchanging gifts, and family gatherings.

- Hanukkah (December 14–22)

The Jewish Festival of Lights lasts eight nights, commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. Families light the menorah, play dreidel, and enjoy traditional foods like latkes.

- Bodhi Day (December 8)

Buddhists celebrate the day Siddhartha Gautama attained enlightenment under the Bodhi tree, becoming the Buddha. It's observed with meditation, chanting, and study.

- Feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8)

A significant Catholic holiday celebrating the Virgin Mary's conception without original sin.

### **Seasonal and Cultural Holidays**

- Winter Solstice/Yule (December 21-22)

Marking the shortest day and longest night, Yule has Pagan origins and symbolizes the rebirth of the sun. Traditions include lighting candles and feasting.

- Dongzhi Festival (December 21-22)

Celebrated in China and East Asia, this Winter Solstice festival emphasizes family reunions and eating tangyuan (sweet glutinous rice balls).

- Kwanzaa (December 26–January 1)

This African-American holiday celebrates heritage, community, and culture with seven principles, symbolized by lighting a kinara.

### **Secular and Global Observances**

- Human Rights Day (December 10)

A global celebration of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations.

- Boxing Day (December 26)

Observed in countries like Canada, the UK, and Australia, it's a day for charitable giving and post-Christmas sales.

- New Year's Eve (December 31)

Welcoming the new year is celebrated worldwide with fireworks, music, and festivities.

**However you and yours celebrate we wish everyone a safe and joyous December and a very Happy New Year!**

