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Diversity Corner

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


July: A Month of Celebration, Reflection, and Inclusion

As we turn the page to July, we enter a month rich with history, celebration, and cultural awareness. From national holidays and international observances to landmark civil rights anniversaries, July offers countless opportunities to learn, reflect, and connect with others. Whether you're honoring national pride, advocating for equity, or simply enjoying the flavors of summer, this month invites us to come together and recognize the diverse tapestry of our shared experience.

Celebrating National and Cultural Pride

July 1 – Canada Day 

Canadians mark the birth of their nation on July 1 with fireworks, parades, and community events. This holiday celebrates the unification of three colonies into the single country of Canada in 1867.

July 4 – U.S. Independence Day 

In the United States, Independence Day is a celebration of freedom and democracy, commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It's a day filled with patriotic pride, fireworks, and gatherings.

July 14 – Bastille Day 

France's national day commemorates the 1789 storming of the Bastille, a pivotal moment in the French Revolution. Celebrations include military parades, dances, and fireworks, symbolizing liberty, equality, and fraternity.

Lifting Up Voices Through DEI Observances

Disability Pride Month

July marks Disability Pride Month, coinciding with the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), signed on July 26, 1990. This month celebrates the contributions and identities of people with disabilities while highlighting the ongoing fight for accessibility and inclusion.

BIPOC Mental Health Awareness Month

Founded in honor of author and mental health advocate Bebe Moore Campbell, this observance shines a light on the unique mental health challenges faced by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. It promotes culturally responsive care and destigmatization.

Honoring Historical Milestones

July 2, 1964 – Civil Rights Act Signed

This landmark legislation outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. It stands as a cornerstone in the fight for civil rights and equity in the United States.

July 20, 1969 – First Moon Landing 🌕

When Neil Armstrong took that historic step on the moon, it not only marked a milestone in science and exploration—it also unified millions in awe and admiration for human possibility.

Bringing People Together

July 30 – International Day of Friendship 🤝

This UN-recognized day celebrates friendship across cultures and borders. It's a reminder that empathy, mutual respect, and solidarity are essential for peaceful coexistence.

National Ice Cream Month 🍦

July is also about fun and flavor! Designated by President Reagan in 1984, National Ice Cream Month offers a sweet excuse to beat the heat and bring people together.

Comic-Con International (San Diego)

For fans of pop culture, Comic-Con is a must-attend event that usually takes place in mid-to-late July. It celebrates comics, film, gaming, and fandoms of all kinds, fostering creativity and connection.

Looking Ahead

As we enjoy the warmth of July, let's not only embrace moments of celebration but also commit to deepening our understanding of diverse perspectives. Whether you're raising a flag, reflecting on civil rights history, or sharing a scoop of ice cream with friends—this month reminds us of the power of unity, equity, and joy.

