



## SCHOOL SAFETY

The importance of creating a sense of belonging through inclusivity and cultural relevance

When we hear the term “school safety,” it often evokes images of emergency operations and safety plans. However, school safety is a much more complex issue than simply implementing more security measures. As the US is constantly working on making ‘safer’ schools, we need to ask **who we are making schools safer for.**

The perception of safety differs from one individual to another and is highly impacted by race, socioeconomic status, gender, orientation and identity, and location. Because discussions about safety are often approached through a White lens, differing perceptions of safety by students of color can go unnoticed. Research suggests that safety measures such as stationing police or security guards in schools make White students feel safer, but **do not have the same effect on Black students**. In addition, invasive safety measures such as metal detectors, increased police presence, and random screenings are **implemented disproportionately** at schools where the student population is made up of mostly students of color. Instead of making students feel safe, these policies often make them feel targeted.

In an **article** published in the journal Psychological Science, researchers found an association between ethnic diversity and feelings of safety among students. The authors hypothesized that this could be due to there not being one dominating majority group, thus creating a feeling of a more balanced power relation among students. The same idea can be applied when considering school safety policies: does this policy put all students on a level playing field?

In addition to safety policies, other rules can also hinder the feeling of safety at school for students of color. The privilege to attend school without altering aspects of one’s identity is a psychological form of safety that many students of color do not experience. In **December 2018**, a Black high school wrestler in New Jersey was forced by a referee to either cut his dreadlocks or forfeit his match. Many BIPOC students suffer from hair discrimination policies and are expected to change part of themselves to conform to the status quo.

**“If you’re suspended from school because of the way that you wear your hair, how are you supposed to have faith or confidence in your school, and that the staff and the institution cares about you?”**

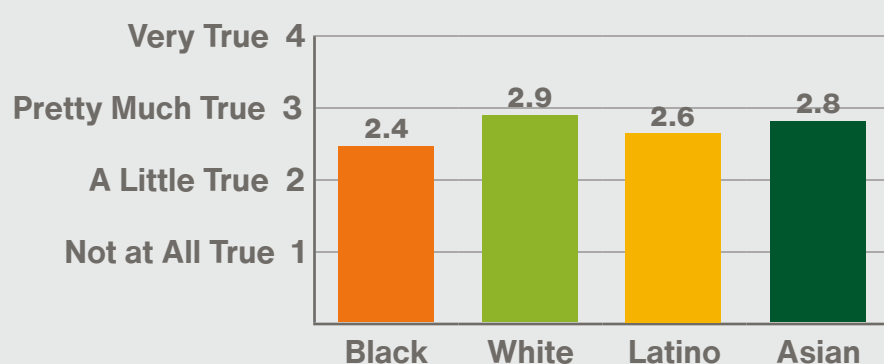
**- Jade Magnus Ogunnaike, Campaign Director at Color Of Change**

A school policy should never force students to sacrifice aspects of their identity to ensure the comfort of the majority or distance themselves from stigma. As we strive to make schools safer, it is crucial to make changes that promote the safety of **all students**, embrace diversity, and advance equity, inclusion, and belonging.

# 90%

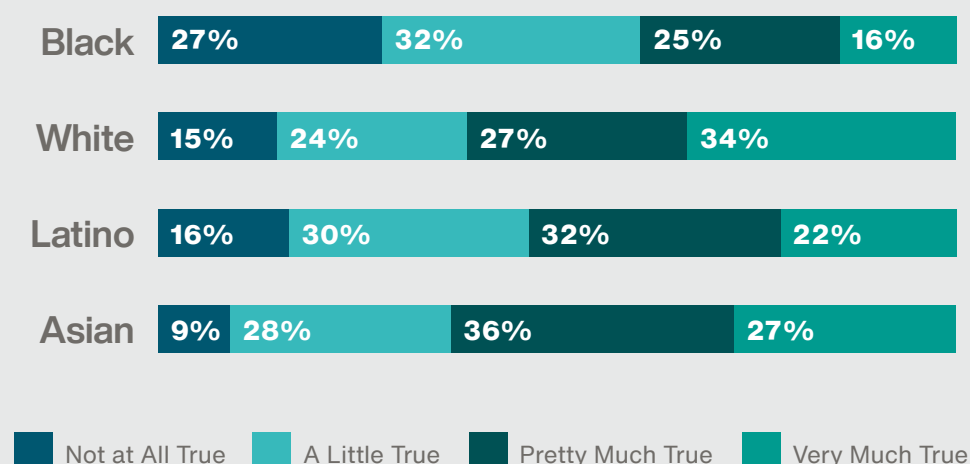
Of students in the sample reported attending a school with a school resource officer or other school-based law enforcement presence

### Students’ Average Responses to Nine Positive Statements about Police in their School, by Student Racial or Ethnic Group



The mean for each group is based on an analysis that statistically controls for the clustering of students within schools.  
Source: California Healthy Kids Survey for 2017/18 school year.

### Students’ Responses to the Statement: I feel safer with the officer at school, by Racial or Ethnic Group



Percentages are based on a descriptive analysis that does not account for the structure of the data where students are clustered within schools. Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100.  
Source: California Healthy Kids Survey for 2017/18 school year.

JEDI IN DESIGN

“We become what we behold. We shape our tools and then our tools shape us.”

- Marshall McLuhan

Architects express these concepts as “form follows function” and “user-centered design”. For reasons of structural and spatial efficiency and economy, much of our architectural design has been almost literally forcing the “round peg” of our behavior into a square “hole” (or box). It is only logical to question whether rectangular forms support our behavior and our society, and in particular, how we envision those to be.

The images on the right show the contrasting spatial configurations for a legislative assembly emerging from a communal culture versus an individualistic Eurocentric culture. Eurocentric cultural perspectives often dominate in design. This highlights the importance of intentionally creating spaces that are culturally relevant to those who will be using them. As we strive towards collaboration and interconnectivity, we should consider how other cultures have developed their built environments differently than the norm.



Top: The Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, Yellowknife NWT, Canada  
Bottom: House of Commons, United Kingdom

SPOTLIGHT/CELEBRATE

**Sandy Hook Elementary School was rebuilt after the shooting – and it hides high security in beautiful design »**

**Cops At The Schoolyard Gate**  
How the number of police officers in schools skyrocketed in recent decades – and made for a harrowing education for Black and brown youth »

**Africa: Rights Progress for Pregnant Students**  
Five More Sub-Saharan Countries Act to Protect Girls’ Education; Barriers Remain »

**Universal Declaration of Human Rights »**

RESOURCES

Caution: Read and Watch recommendations have not been vetted for emotional triggers and have an assumed adult audience.

Watch

- Summer of Soul  
Hulu
- Limbo  
\$ Amazon Prime
- 12 Years A Slave  
Amazon Prime
- Fire In The Blood  
Netflix

Read

- Pachinko  
Min Jin Lee
- There Will Be No Miracles Here  
Casey Gerald
- School to Prison Pipeline  
ACLU

Get Involved

- Eight things you can do to help Uyghurs in a time of genocide
- AIDS Prevention
- Amnesty International
- Blanchet House  
Nonprofit providing social services for people in need

Support Local

- Cafe Diaspora  
Local immigrant-owned café that hires immigrants and refugees
- Made In Portland Gift Guide
- L’Arche Portland’s Christmas Tree Sale  
Benefits create homes and build communities for people with and without intellectual disabilities

Local Events

Days to Know

Dec 1

World AIDS Day »

Dec 2

International Day for the Abolition of Slavery »

Dec 4-19

Holiday Express »

Dec 5-19

My People’s Market »

Dec 6

Last Day of Hanukkah

Dec 8

Festival of Trees »

Dec 10

Human Rights Day »

Dec 10-12

Crafty Wonderland »

Dec 11

Portland Indigenous Marketplace »

Dec 15

Bill of Rights Day »

Dec 18

International Migrants Day »

Dec 21

Winter Solstice »

Dec 24

Christmas Eve

Dec 25

Christmas

Dec 26

Kwanzaa

Dec 31

New Year’s Eve

Holiday Light Displays in Portland





Illustration of two women with Puerto Rican flags on their arms. Art by Aly Mcknight

## COLONIZATION ISN'T HISTORY

By Abraham Rodriguez

**Colonialism** is a practice or policy of control by one people or power over other people or areas, often by establishing colonies and generally with the aim of economic dominance. Colonies are denied self-determination and while they're subject to governance by foreign colonizers, they remain separate from the administration of the original colonizing country. Settlers from the colonizing country move into the newly claimed land, replacing the Indigenous population, frequently by means of violence and forced assimilation. Understanding settler colonialism helps us see that colonialism isn't a singular event in the past, but an ongoing process of erasure of Indigenous people.

### Colonization by the United States

After the United States gained independence from Great Britain, a belief doctrine called **Manifest Destiny** was declared. This belief held that it was the destined duty of Americans to spread across the continent. Manifest Destiny was not just confined to the North American continent. In 1898, the United States expanded its reach by annexing Hawai'i and acquiring Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines at the end of the Spanish-American War. The last three mentioned were explicitly acquired as colonies and not as prospective states. The Supreme Court validated this as part of the **Insular Cases** of 1901. My own nation of Puerto Rico is specifically noted as an "unincorporated territory," "belonging to, but not part of" the United States. Americans should keep this history in mind as the **political status of Puerto Rico** becomes a mainstream American political talking point.

### Long-Lasting Consequences

When a former colony gains independence — or full political representation within the colonizing government — the horrors of colonialism often endure. European countries frequently continued their economic and cultural dominance over their former African colonies in what has been called a neocolonial relationship. While Hawai'i became a state within the USA in 1959, there is a continued **Hawaiian Sovereignty Movement** that advocates for independence. The movement attributes ongoing problems among native communities of houselessness, poverty, and loss of cultural identity to the lack of native governance and political self-determination. While Indigenous people in the United States legally have the same rights as other citizens, they still face issues of racism, poverty, and lack of economic opportunities. It is important to remember that just as colonialism is ongoing, so is the process of resistance and decolonization.

#### Learn More

[Non-Self-Governing Territories »](#)

[Financial Oversight Board for Puerto Rico »](#)

[The Indian Removal Act »](#)

[Illegal Overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawai'i \(1893\) »](#)

["Gold, God, and Glory" »](#)

[The Age of Discovery »](#)

[The Scramble for Africa »](#)

## SPOTLIGHT/CELEBRATE

**Academics: It's time to get behind decolonising the curriculum »**

**Thanksgiving — Indigenous Style »**

**Where Are My People?**

[Native American, First Nations & Indigenous in Architecture »](#)

**AOC-Velázquez Puerto Rico bill sets needed path to decolonization »**

## RESOURCES

Caution: Read and Watch recommendations have not been vetted for emotional triggers and have an assumed adult audience.



### Watch

**Indian Horse**  
Netflix

**Rhymes for Young Ghouls**  
Prime Video

**How Historical Colonialism led me to Hate my Culture**  
Ted Talk

**Reel Injun: on the Trail of the Hollywood Indian**  
PBS



### Read

**Ask Auntie Questions (Is 'find your own tribe' offensive?)**  
WERNATIVE

**Diversity among Architects**  
Craig Wilkins



### Get Involved/Support

**Portland Indigenous Marketplace**

**Bison Coffeehouse**  
Native-owned coffeehouse

**Oregon Native American Chamber**

**Potlatch Fund**  
Capacity Building Program

### Local Events

**Nov 8–13**  
Portland Book Festival »

**Nov 12–18**  
Native Cinema Showcase »

**Nov 26–Dec 24**  
Indigenous Art Exhibit »

### Days to Know

**Nov 11**  
Remembrance Day (CAN) »  
**Veterans' Day** (USA) »

**Nov 25**  
Thanksgiving (USA)  
National Day of Mourning (USA) »  
Int. Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women »

**Nov 28**  
Hanukkah Begins »

CELEBRATING THE TAÍNO

If you learned about Christopher Columbus in school, you likely heard the version of history that describes Columbus as a heroic voyager. You probably didn't hear about the more accurate version where Columbus took advantage of the peaceful nature of the Indigenous Taíno peoples, stole their land, and decimated their populations (genocide).

In the United States, this truth has slowly been gaining more awareness over the years and states have begun to celebrate Indigenous People's Day in place of Columbus Day. In places like Mexico City, people were protesting the celebration of Columbus Day almost 30 years ago. As a step forward, in 2020, a prominent statue in Mexico City was taken down and will now be replaced by a statue depicting an indigenous woman, and the artist will also be an indigenous artist.

On October 11 this year, we recommend taking a moment to learn about the Taíno people and celebrate their cultural legacy.

### Fourteen Hundred Ninety-Two

In Fourteen Hundred and Ninety Two,  
Columbus sailed the ocean blue.  
But everything else in the childhood rhyme,  
Ignores the historic details and genocide.

The overland route between Asia and Spain,  
Was closed making trade very hard to maintain.  
But Oriental goods were in high demand,  
A new route would allow this exchange to expand.

Aristotle had proved that the world was round,  
You could reach eastern Asia by sailing westbound.  
The Ancient Greeks calculated the length of the trip,  
Far exceeding the range of the most modern ship.

Columbus made absurd and outrageous guarantees,  
...

(click to read the rest)

### The Rewrite

SPOTLIGHT

Illustration by: theodysseyonline.com

Big Impact of  
Microaggressions »

Bullying in Schools »

Creating an Accessible and  
Welcoming Workplace »

RESOURCES

Caution: Read and Watch recommendations have not been vetted for emotional triggers and have an assumed adult audience.

Watch

- Broken Treaties An Oregon Experience  
OPB
- I Have Tourette's But Tourette's Doesn't Have Me  
HBO
- Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution  
Netflix
- Bully  
Netflix  
Prime Video

Read

- Rethinking Columbus  
Bill Bigelow
- Apple: Skin to the Core  
Eric Gansworth
- Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and Teachings of Plants  
Robin Wall Kimmerer

Get Involved

- Native Wellness Institute  
Promotes the well-being of Indigenous people
- Warrior Women Project  
Illuminating the past in a way that inspires a radical present
- The Trevor Project
- AbleGamers Charity

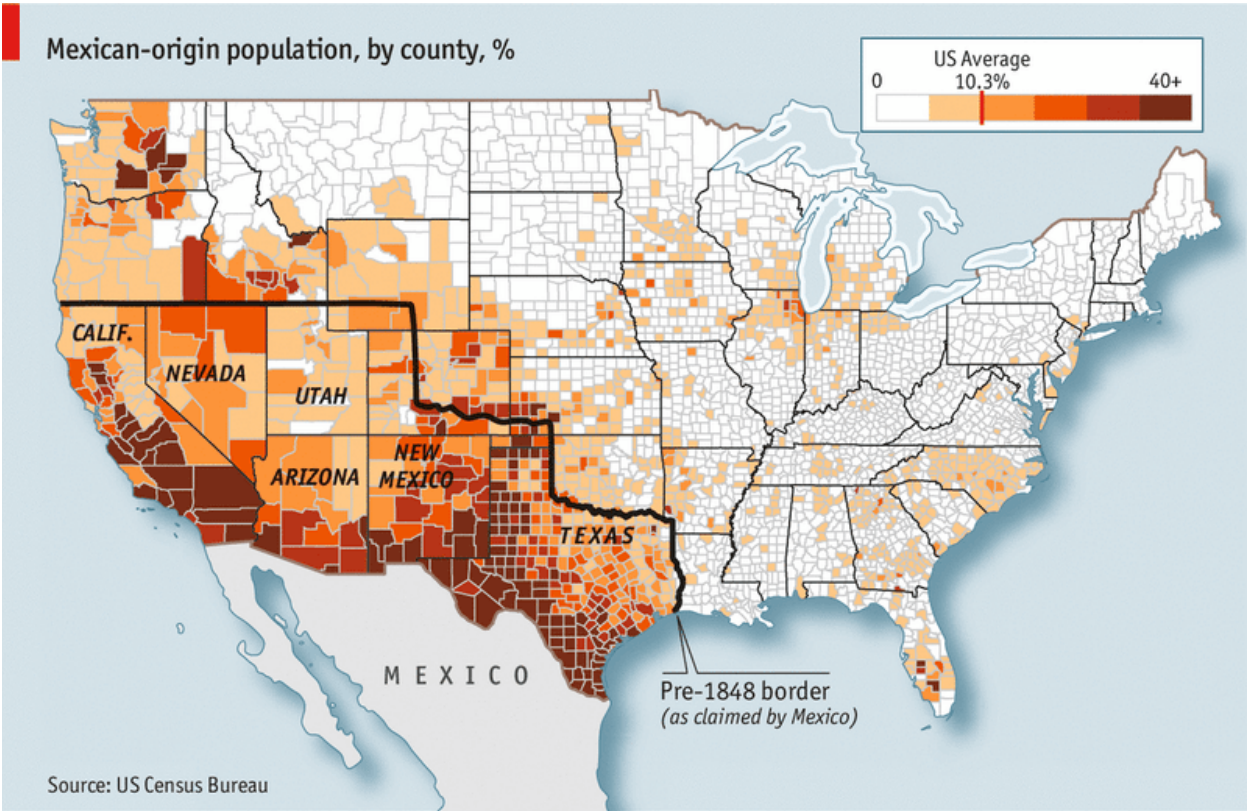
Support Local

- Happy Cup Coffee  
Crafted coffee by adults with disabilities
- Quintana Galleries  
Native American, Arctic, and Mexican Art
- The Baked Clay Studio  
Handcrafted clay earrings and vintage jewelry

Local Events

Days to Know





“

I'm going to talk about the foreigner, and what I say is true; they want to keep us as slaves, but this will not serve them. Gentlemen, be careful/with the American race; they come to possess the lands that [Mexican General] Santa Anna sold them.”

Castañeda, Ybarra-Frausto and Sommers  
*Literatura Chicana*

# THE BORDER CROSSED US

How Mexico Lost Half of its Land

You may have heard the Chicano activist chant "We didn't Cross the Border, the Border Crossed Us" and they are correct! The Mexican-American War (1846-1848) resulted in the loss of what is now called Texas, California, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, part of Wyoming and Colorado, as they were originally all part of Mexico. Once the US seized Mexico City, Mexico was forced to sign the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo bringing an end to the war, and signing over around 50% of its land. In return, the US paid Mexico \$15 million for war damages and protection of the property and civil rights to roughly 80,000 Mexicans that were now on American territory. Even though many of them became US citizens, they were forced to give up their land, couldn't vote on many laws, and faced violent racism.

[Learn more about the history of discrimination of Latinos in America »](#)



| U.S Population |  |            |
|----------------|--|------------|
| 61.9%          | Mexican  | 36,964,000 |
| 9.7%           | Puerto Rican   | 5,772,000  |
| 4%             | Cuban  | 2,362,000  |
| 3.9%           | Salvadoran   | 2,325,000  |
| 3.5%           | Dominican  | 2,075,000  |
| 2.5%           | Guatemalan   | 1,513,000  |
| 2.1%           | Columbian  | 1,241,000  |
| 3.8%           | All other Latino   | 2,287,000  |
| 8.6%           | The following countries of origin each have a US population of less than one million. Honduran, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, Peruvian, Venezuelan, Nicaraguan, Argentine, Panamanian, Chilean, Costa Rican, Bolivia, Uruguayan, Other Central American, Paraguayan, Other South American. |            |

# DIVERSITY WITHIN THE HISPANIC AND LATINO COMMUNITIES

National Hispanic Heritage Month traditionally honors the cultures and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans. Spanning from September 15 to October 15, the timing of this month is specifically tied to various significant dates. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua celebrate their independence on September 15, while Mexico’s Independence Day is the next day on September 16, Chile’s Independence Day is September 18th, and Belize’s Independence Day is September 21. This group, made up of 60 million individuals in the US, trace their heritage to Spanish-speaking countries in Latin America and to Spain, each with distinct demographic and economic profiles.

This month, we’d like to briefly touch on some of the diversity of these groups and contributions that have influenced the United States. We encourage everyone to investigate the rich diversity and culture of these communities to learn more.

## Hispanic, Latino, Chicano, Latinx? What’s the Difference?

Hispanic, Latino, Latinx, and Chicano all have different meanings. Hispanic and Latino are often used interchangeably though they actually mean two different things. Hispanic refers to people who speak Spanish or are descended from Spanish-speaking populations, while Latino refers to people who are from or descended from people from Latin America. Latinx, is a newer term to refer to nonbinary individuals, and Chicano, which was popular in the 1960s, refers to Mexican-Americans who grew up in the US. Each term holds different weight for people, if in doubt which term to use ask the individual what they prefer.

[Learn More »](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

Latino culture has a rich past, with Indigenous, African, and European influences. Many foods, music, art, and other Latino cultural are seen in the United States, but do you know where they originated from? Let’s look at where some of our favorite dishes, music, and art originated.

Click on the names of each one to learn more about them.



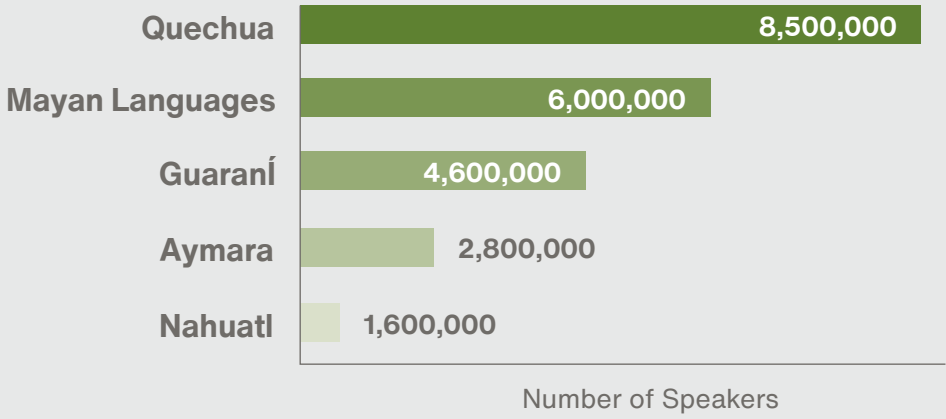
Languages are often one of the casualties of colonization. Colonization comes at the loss of Indigenous knowledge, cultural beliefs, and history as the native language is lost to the new, required language. Many Latino countries have lost generations of languages over the years.

Number of Extinct Latin American languages

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Argentina: 16 | Ecuador: 21  |
| Bolivia: 6    | Guyana: 1    |
| Brazil: 35    | Paraguay: 1  |
| Chile: 3      | Peru: 33     |
| Colombia: 59  | Venezuela: 6 |

LARGEST INDIGENOUS LATIN AMERICAN LANGUAGE FAMILIES

Click on the languages below to learn more



MY FAMILY NEVER FINISHED MIGRATING  
WE JUST STOPPED

We invented cactus. To survive the winters we created steel. At my dad’s mill I saw a man dressed like a Martian walk straight into fire. The flames licked his skin, but like a pet, it never bit him. In the desert, they find our baseball caps, our empty water bottles, but never our bodies.

Even the best ICE agents can’t track us through the storms, but I have a theory. Some of our cousins don’t care about LA or Chicago; they build a sanctuary underneath the sand, under the skin we shed, so we can wear the desert like a cobija (blanket), under the bones of our loved ones, bones worn thin as thorns to terrorize blue agents, bones worn thin as guitar strings, so when the wind blows we can follow the music home.

José Olivarez  
Citizen Illegal (BreakBeat Poets)

SPOTLIGHT/CELEBRATE

- 6 Things You May Not Know About Hispanic Heritage Month »
- In Central America, Climate Change Is Driving Families North »
- Hundreds of undocumented essential workers rally for change »
- Bike Advocacy’s Blind Spot »

RESOURCES

Caution: Read and Watch recommendations have not been vetted for emotional triggers and have an assumed adult audience.

| Watch  | Read  | Get Involved  | Support Local  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <div>Walk Out</div> <div>HBO Max</div>                   | <div>Indigeneity in the Mexican Cultural Imagination</div> <div>Analisa Taylor</div>  | <div>ACLU</div> <div>Immigrant Rights</div>                 | <div>Portland Mercado</div> <div>Shop/Give</div>                 |
| <div>Cesar Chavez</div> <div>Hulu</div>                  | <div>Solito, Solita</div> <div>Crossing Borders with Youth Refugees from Central America</div> <div>Jonathan Freedman</div> | <div>HandsOn Greater Portland</div>                         | <div>La Arepa</div> <div>Venezuelan Street Food</div>            |
| <div>Gente-fied</div> <div>Netflix</div>                 | <div>The House on Mango Street</div> <div>Sandra Cisneros</div>   | <div>Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noreste (PCUN)</div>   | <div>Salsas Locas</div> <div>Tortilleria Y Tienda DeLeon's</div> |
| <div>Street Food: Latin America</div> <div>Netflix</div> |   | <div>League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)</div> | <div>Tienda y Panaderia Santa Cruz #2</div>                      |

Local Events

Days to Know





THE LAND BACK MOVEMENT

The United States’ National Parks are home to the greatest natural wonders in the country and represent diverse landscapes with rich, untold histories. For many Americans, the parks are beacons of conservation, chances to escape from the stressors of everyday life, and awe-inspiring spaces for immersion in nature. However, the land now protected by the National Park Service is also home to significant cultural and spiritual sites for many Native people, a history and significance which is largely invisible to visitors of these parks. While the narrative of most National Park signage and literature focuses on the native flora and fauna of the area, with an occasional nod to the importance of protecting beautiful natural landscapes, the overlays of cultural significance and realistic histories of the parks aren’t always readily apparent.

In his article “[Return the National Parks to the Tribes](#),” David Treuer makes the claim that “there can be no better remedy for the theft of land than land,” emphasizing the importance of sites within Glacier National Park, Yosemite, the Grand Canyon, and others to Native Americans who were forced off of the land by white settlers. Many parks have adopted a policy allowing Native groups to access significant cultural and spiritual sites within parks without having to pay any kind of entrance fee. In 2015, after a decades-long debate, Sally Jewel, serving as Secretary of the Interior under Barack Obama, restored the name Denali to the mountain previously referred to as Mount McKinley in Denali National Park in Alaska. Other sites throughout National Parks are still under scrutiny for namesakes that ignore their complex history, and officials have been under pressure to return to their Native-given names. These steps, while more progressive than those which preceded them, do not represent a full and substantive fulfillment of the Land Back movement, one which Treuer writes emphatically about.

National Parks have become deeply meaningful to many people since their inception and the argument around the validity of this solution is fraught with generational claims and trauma, and passionate views of environmentalism on both sides. Proponents of the Land Back initiative argue that returning National Park land to Native Americans would provide an economic opportunity for a struggling segment of the population, would revive Native methods of environmental stewardship, and would return access of significant sites and landscapes to the groups whose cultures and spirituality was born of these places. Arguments in opposition often present logistical concerns, as well as feelings of expired claims. Some feel that the generations who understood the complex stewardship of the land are long gone, and the unfettered return of land to those who have not inhabited it for generations would lead to a backslide in conservation efforts. Others fear that if control of the parks eventually left the NPS, access to the parks would become more limited, depriving people of what is often called “America’s best idea,” a chance to experience true childlike wonderment and awe at the natural beauty of our world. Decide for yourself — explore the links below.

- Pre-European Tribal Boundaries
- Current National Parks
- Current Reservations

SPOTLIGHT

The Surprising Benefits of Teaching a Class Outside »

Hiking Is Not Just for Able-Bodied White People Anymore »

Race and Nature in the City  
Engaging Youth of Color In Nature-Based Activities »

Five Ways to Make the Outdoors More Inclusive »

RESOURCES

Caution: Read and Watch recommendations have not been vetted for emotional triggers and have an assumed adult audience.

Watch

- Accessing Natural Areas Near You  
YouTube
- RISE: Standing Rocks  
Amazon Prime
- Reservation Dogs  
Release Aug 9  
Fx on Hulu
- Tribal Land Transfer  
Oregon Field Guide  
PBS

Read

- Environmental Justice  
Dorceta E. Taylor
- Black Faces White Spaces  
Carolyn Finney
- Disparities in Park Space by Race and Income  
University of California Berkeley
- Racial and Ethnic Inclusion in Parks and Recreation  
National Recreation and Park Association

Get Involved

- Ecology in Classroom and Outdoors (ECO)
- The National Wildlife Federation

Local Events

- Aug 6–8  
My People’s Market Spotlights Local Entrepreneurs of Color »
- Aug 8  
Bridge Pedal »
- Aug 27–28  
Hood to Coast »

Days to Know

- Aug 1  
National Mountain Climbing Day »
- Aug 9  
International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples »
- Aug 26  
Women’s Equality Day »



A TRIBUTE TO THE LOST INDIGENOUS CHILDREN | JULY 2021



A tribute on the steps of the Vancouver Art Gallery created by Tamara Bell an Indigenous artist. The 215 pairs of children's shoes honor the young lives lost. Photo by Tina Taphouse via Twitter/[@ttaphouse](#)

A TRIBUTE TO  
215+ CHILDREN  
Found Buried at B.C.  
Residential School

As we grieve for the 215 Indigenous children who were killed in a Residential School in B.C., as well as the thousands more that remain unaccounted for, it is important to check in with your Indigenous colleagues, friends, and family that are deeply impacted by these tragic events. As Indigenous peoples and fellow allies continuously call for truth and reconciliation from the Canadian government, more chilling evidence of mass graves at Residential schools are being discovered. As of June 24th, over 1,300 children; and counting, have been revealed throughout Canada. 751 unmarked graves were found at Marieval Indian Residential school in Saskatchewan alone.

Residential Schools

Residential schools were in operation in Canada and the United States from the 1600's until 1996. They were the product of churches and the government, a collective, calculated effort to eradicate Indigenous language and culture that is considered a cultural genocide.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was formed as a means of reckoning with the devastating legacy of forced assimilation and abuse left by the residential school system. In June 2015, the commission released a report based on stories from thousands of residential school survivors. The commission made 94 Calls to Action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation. For a full breakdown of the progress on the [94 Calls to Action](#), please read CBC's investigative coverage [here](#).

Do you know whose land you live on?  
Find out on the [Native-Land.ca](#) interactive map »

Moving Forward at IBI

We would like to acknowledge the discriminatory, racist, and colonial practices that have caused an intergenerational wound, and continue to create barriers for Indigenous peoples across Canada. As professionals engaging with urban design, infrastructure, architecture, and community planning, it is important for all of our staff to reflect on the colonial impact on urbanism.

SPOTLIGHT

A4LE JEDI: Indigenous Schools »

Written by Ross Parker

Cultural Inclusivity »

Jesse Wentle, Ojibwe broadcaster, curator, producer, activist, and public speaker

CanadaLand Podcast Thunder Bay »

An insightful piece on the deaths of Indigenous youth.

FREE Learning »

University of Alberta has a free course on Indigenous learning.

RESOURCES

Watch

We Will Stand Up  
Amazon Prime \$

We Were Children  
Amazon Prime

Foster Child  
Office national du film du Canada (ONF) National Film Board (NFB)

Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance  
ONF NFB\$

Read

21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act  
Bob Joseph

Seven Fallen Feathers  
Tanya Talaga

The Inconvenient Indian  
Thomas King

Storying Violence: Unravelling Colonial Narratives in the Stanley Trial  
Gina Starblanket and Dallas Hunt

Get Involved

The Indian Residential School of Survivors Society

Orange Shirt Day; Every Child Matters

Local Events

Jul 2-4  
Portland Craft Beer Festival Portland »

Jul 9  
Gem Faire »

Jul 24-25  
Portland Zine Symposium »

Days to Know

July 4  
Independence Day

July 18  
Nelson Mandela International Day »

July 19-23  
Eid Al-Adha »

July 29  
National Intern Day

WHY PRIDE?

For many, the act of joy is an act of protest

June is known to many in the Western world as Pride Month. It started out as a protest against police brutality and an anti-gay legal system by gay, lesbian, and transgender people in the Stonewall Riots in 1969 NYC, and quickly became a rally for Gay Liberation, Gay Freedom, and eventually Gay Pride. June has also seen such US-wide milestones as Loving v. Virginia (1967), end of Sodomy Laws (2003), and Marriage Equality (2015). Words and symbols have evolved and been reclaimed, from the Nazi death camp’s pink and black triangles to words such as queer and gay. The rainbow flags embrace all, and are ever-evolving. By 2021, LGBTQ+ could more accurately be Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Questioning Intersex Pansexual 2Spirited Asexual Allies (and more) to embrace an inclusive spectrum of human sexuality and identity. The journey of discovery and greater acceptance continues on the path towards justice.



Six Types of Microaggressions That Harm LGBTQ People »

SPOTLIGHT

**La Brega**  
Podcast Series of the Puerto Rican Experience »

**What’s Changed—and What Hasn’t—in 50 Years of Pride Parades »**

**ICE Still Casting a Wide Net »**

**Doing a Neighborhood Good**  
SWA Group (landscape architects) tapped for memorial and LGBTQ+ space at Harvey Milk Plaza »

RESOURCES

**Watch**

- Milk**  
Netflix
- The LGBTQ Movement and the Stonewall Riots**  
PBS
- It’s a Sin**  
HBO Max
- A Better Life**  
Hulu

**Read**

- Migrating to Prison: America’s Obsession with Locking Up Immigrants**  
César Cuauhtémoc García Hernández
- Beyond Magenta**  
Susam Kuklin
- The Journey**  
Francesca Sanna

**Get Involved**

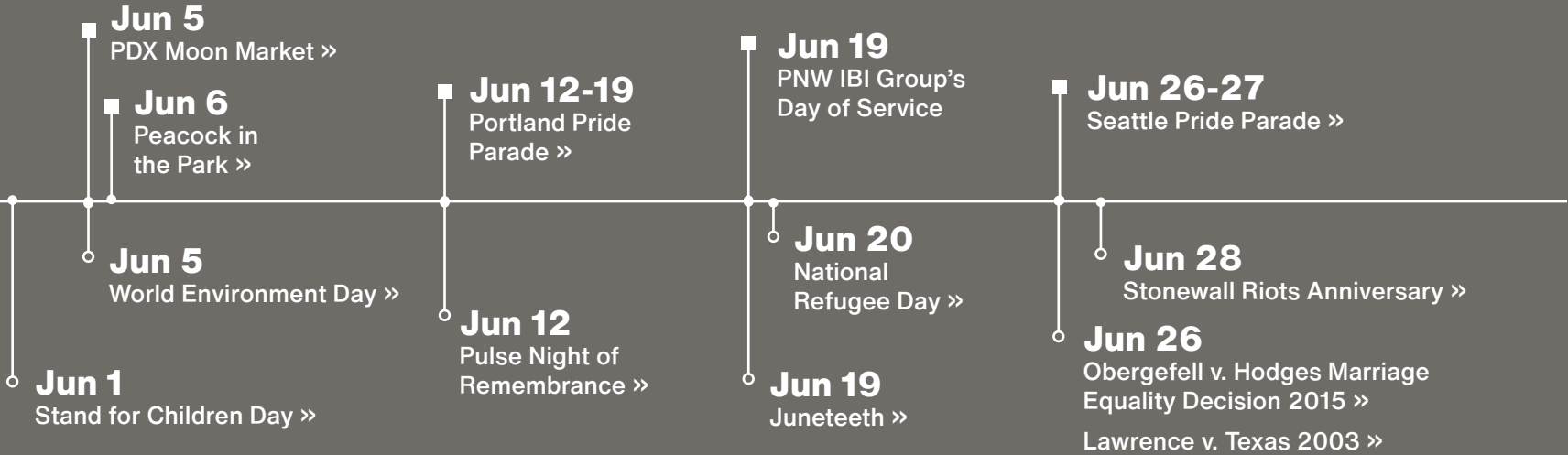
- PDX Free Fridge**  
Food Donation
- Equity Foundation**  
Equity for LGBTQ Community
- Causa**  
Oregon’s immigrants rights organization

**Support Local**

- 40 lbs Coffee**
- Boriken Restaurant**  
Puerto Rican Food
- Sweet Pea Bakery**  
All-Vegan Retail Bakery
- Artifact PDX**  
Second Hand Store

Local Events

Days to Know



For the past few months, your PNW JEDI committee has been writing about topics that are personally meaningful and important to us through an equity and diversity lens. While we value sharing our perspectives and passions through this newsletter, a primary goal of this committee is to amplify voices that may typically go unheard. For the May newsletter, we're sharing powerful stories described by others in their own words, rather than through our interpretations. The opportunity to look into another person's lived experience is an invaluable benefit of our global access to each other — through the Internet, social media, and other technology. While we can never fully understand the lived experiences of other groups, we can continue to make space for the perspectives and voices of people in them. By viewing life through other perspectives, our own image and understanding of the world can only become more whole.

"I need to drive my two-year-old to daycare tomorrow morning. To ensure we arrive alive, we won't take public transit (Oscar Grant). I removed all air fresheners from the vehicle and double-checked my registration status (Daunte Wright), and ensured my license plates were visible (Lt. Caron Nazario). I will be careful to follow all traffic rules (Philando Castille), signal every turn (Sandra Bland), keep the radio volume low (Jordan Davis), and won't stop at a fast food chain for a meal (Rayshard Brooks). I'm too afraid to pray (Rev. Clementa C. Pickney) so I just hope the car won't break down (Corey Jones).

When my wife picks him up at the end of the day, I'll remind her not to dance (Elijah McClain), stop to play in a park (Tamir Rice), patronize the local convenience store for snacks (Trayvon Martin), or walk around the neighborhood (Mike Brown). Once they are home, we won't stand in our backyard (Stephon Clark), eat ice cream on the couch (Botham Jean), or play any video games (Atatiana Jefferson). After my wife and I tuck him into bed around 7:30pm, neither of us will leave the house to go to Walmart (John Crawford) or to the gym (Tshyrand Oates) or on a jog (Ahmaud Arbery). We won't even walk to see the birds (Christian Cooper). We'll just sit and try not to breathe (George Floyd) and not to sleep (Breonna Taylor)."

These are things white people simply do not have to think about.

**David Gray, from facebook post**

## 'I WILL NOT STAND SILENT.'

**10 Asian Americans Reflect on Racism During the Pandemic and the Need for Equality »**



Choi was in a Penn Station bathroom on March 13 when a man stood behind him and started coughing and spitting on him. "I was shocked more than angry," Choi says. "Why would he do that?"

"You Chinese f-ck," the man said. "All of you should die, and all of you have the Chinese virus." Choi waited for the man to leave and then reported the situation to a police officer. "I was told that spitting wasn't a crime, and that it wouldn't be worth the paperwork I would have to go through to take any sort of action," he says. Not knowing what else to do, Choi later anonymously recounted the story on Reddit, but he was hesitant to come forward in fear that his family might become the target of future attacks. Because of the shame he felt from the incident, he didn't even share the story with his parents. But when attacks against Asian Americans kept occurring, Choi felt that he needed to speak up. "This whole thing made me into more of an introvert. I'm worried about my kid. I don't want her to face this kind of racism," he says. "It should just be love that we hold for one another."

Choi says the events of recent weeks have made him more passionate about fighting racism than ever before. "I will not stand silent until everyone in the U.S. can be considered equal."

**Abraham Choi**



A MOM JUST REUNITED WITH HER 10-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER IN TEXAS AFTER SIX YEARS APART. THEIR JOURNEY ISN'T OVER »

“Don’t judge. No one should judge us,” she told CNN en Español this week. “If we were OK in our countries, we would not leave and risk our lives, or the lives of our children. We didn’t come here to get rich. We only came here to be safe, to stay alive — because now, in our country, we can’t... It’s a trauma,” she says, “to come fleeing something, and to run into something that’s worse... It’s very difficult to be imprisoned, because there is no reason to imprison us — and even less so our children.”

Sonia Almendarez

FEMINISM AND RACE  
Just Who Counts As A ‘Woman Of Color’? »

“As a Korean-American woman, I am sometimes hesitant to participate in conversations like #solidarityisforwhitewomen, because all too often, no one seems to be quite certain where I belong. In college sociology classes, when I asked to see the perspectives of Asian-Americans in our studies, some professors told me to look at the statistics on white people, or insinuated that Asian-Americans had no bearing on racial justice. I’ve been told since high school that Asian-Americans are not relevant, that our voices and experiences matter only when high-schoolers turn their pages to the obligatory paragraphs in their world history readers that briefly address Chinese railroad workers. The Asian-American experience, despite spanning several generations of struggle and oppression, is rendered invisible.”

Lindsey Yoo

RESOURCES



Watch

- Billie Holiday  
Hulu
- Minari  
\$\$ Prime Video, Apple TV, etc
- Immigrant Nation  
Netflix
- Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Responds to Rep. Ted Yoho  
Youtube



Read

- A Kids Book About Racism  
Jelani Memory
- A Kids Book About Diversity  
Charnaie Gordon
- A Kids Book About Feminism  
Emma McIlroy



Get Involved

- Portland NAACP
- World Pulse  
Women-led social network for social change
- Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon
- Support Older Americans Month



Support Local

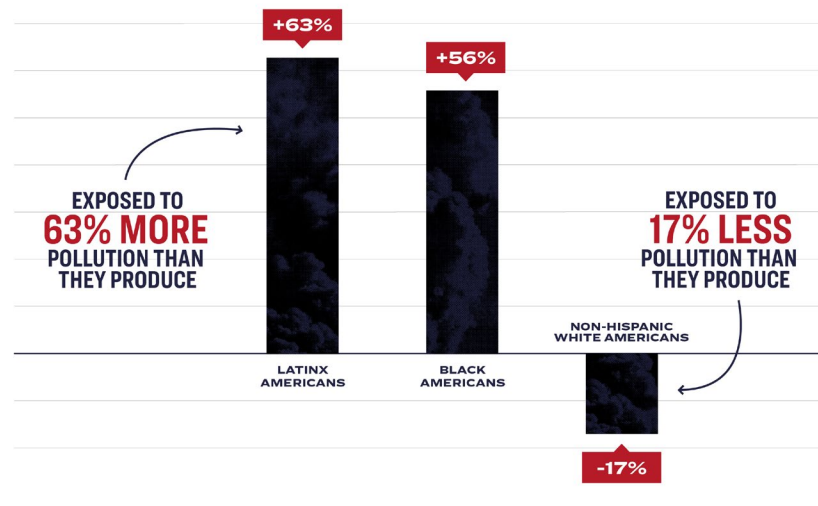
- Bit House Saloon  
Asian Owned
- Portland Mercado  
Food Carts
- HoneyBee Lemonade Syrups
- Constructing Hope

Local Events

Days to Know



## POLLUTION EXPOSURE BY POPULATION (2003–2015)



Source: Christopher W. Tessum et al., “Inequity in consumption of goods and services adds to racial-ethnic disparities in air pollution exposure,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (March 2019)

The Green 2.0 2020 NGO & Foundation Transparency Report sums it up best:

**Diversity without inclusion is tokenism.**

**Diversity without equity is segregation.**

**Diversity without accountability**

**does not promote justice.**

## THE INTERSECTION OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND RACISM

Climate action and racial justice – two topics we don’t often link together, but not seeing the connection is doing a disservice to both causes. The term used to describe the intersectionality between the issues is ‘environmental racism’. First coined by African American civil rights leader Dr. Benjamin Chavis, environmental racism is the connection between racialized communities, socio-economic risk, and environmental risk. The [World Economic Forum](#) has a clear explanation of the effects of environmental racism:

“...communities of colour are disproportionately burdened with health hazards through policies and practices that force them to live in proximity to sources of toxic waste such as sewage works, mines, landfills, power stations, major roads and emitters of airborne particulate matter. As a result, these communities suffer greater rates of health problems attendant on hazardous pollutants.”

Many populations in the US are disproportionately affected by pollutions and toxins due to inequitable housing opportunities. A plan proposed by Senator Elizabeth Warren called [Fighting For Justice As We Combat The Climate Crisis](#), brings the issue right to our doorstep. Warren’s plan notes that “decades of racist housing policy and officially sanctioned segregation that denied people of color the opportunity to build wealth also denied them the opportunity to choose the best neighborhood for their families.” Exposure to pollutants results in increased health issues, but Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities are less likely to have access to quality healthcare.

We need [diverse voices in the conversation](#) about climate change if we want to move toward equity. Many Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), nonprofit organizations that operate independently of any government, exist to address climate change issues but include disproportionately few BIPOC voices. A [2020 independent report](#) showed an increase in BIPOC representation at the largest 40 NGOs in the last four years, but the percentages are still much lower than the percentages of BIPOC in the populations the organizations are meant to represent.



Swinomish tribal members from Washington State participate in a clam garden restoration in British Columbia. Photo copyright of Swinomish Indian Tribal community.

## RELYING ON THE LAND

The Effect of Climate Change on Indigenous People

We can’t talk about climate change without noting the [disproportionate impact on Indigenous communities](#). These groups rely on hunting, fishing, and gathering, and have strong ties to the land. Even small changes in the weather patterns can affect the biodiversity many communities need.

Indigenous groups have been at the forefront of discussions on how to combat climate change and take much needed actions. Tribes and First Nations across North America have been [finding ways to keep their way of life](#) in our changing environment. In Washington State, for example, the Swinomish people are looking to build the first modern clam garden. The locally-based Affiliates Tribes of Northwest Indians led a [Tribal Review of the 2020 Congressional document](#) for solving the climate crisis. This process resulted in a framework to inform Tribal Nations, inter-tribal organizations, and other interested parties, of the impacts and gaps of the plan, strategies for addressing the priorities, and draft language Tribal leaders can use to communicate with policymakers, among other things.

Each of us must recognize our own role in the climate crisis and the impact it has on other communities. There are [many things we can do to help](#), starting today! We often feel like one person can’t do much, but as activist David Suzuki has said, “In a world of more than seven billion people, each of us is a drop in the bucket. But with enough drops, we can fill any bucket.”

SPOTLIGHT: ACTIVISTS TO WATCH

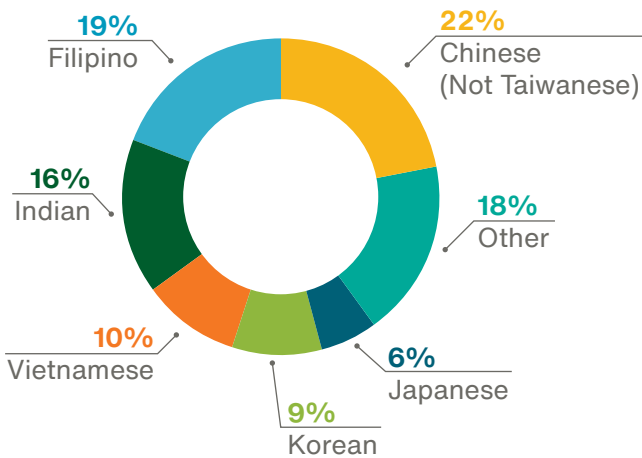
- David Suzuki »
- Genesis Butler »
- Isaac Vergun »
- Xiuhtezcatl Martinez »  
Earth Guardian »

STOPPING COVID-FUELED HATE

As we pass the one-year mark of our COVID restrictions, most of us have been reminiscing about the last time we were able to do normal activities. We didn’t know it at the time, but we had our last visits to restaurants or last group hangouts with friends and families. Unfortunately, mid-March 2020 was also the beginning of something: Increased hate crimes against Asians and Asian Americans. Likely spurred by racist rhetoric from public figures, people have associated the COVID pandemic with this group of people. **Stop AAPI Hate** (AAPI = Asian American and Pacific Islanders) was launched in March 2020 to document COVID-19-related incidents of hate against this group. The organization has received over 3,700 incident reports from 47 states and the District of Columbia. Incidents of hate crimes against this population continue to increase alarmingly.

We all need to be informed and stop hate when we see it. Learn more about what has been happening:

- Washington Post article [Opinion: The surge of attacks against Asian Americans requires attention and swift solutions](#)
- NPR Radio: [Stories Shed Light On Recent Attacks On Asian Americans](#)
- [National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum \(NAPAWF\)](#)



Other: Including Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, Thai, Laotian, Taiwanese, Bangladeshi, Burmese, Indonesian, Nepalese, Sri Lankan, Malaysian, and Bhutanese.

“Country of origin or birth among the AAPI community” demographics from the [White House Archives](#)

How can you help?  
[Learn About Bystander Intervention »](#)

RESOURCES

Watch

- The Education of Little Tree**  
Prime Video
- Nations United**  
Youtube
- How Environmental Racism Shapes the US**  
PBS
- Why all Americans should care about ‘Environmental Racism’**  
Youtube

Read

- Eat for the Planet: Saving the World One Bite at a Time**  
Nil Zacharias
- A Terrible Thing to Waste**  
Environmental Racism and its Assault on the American Mind  
Harriet A. Washington
- The (Almost) Zero-Waste Guide**  
Melanie Mannarino

Get Involved

- A4LE**  
[JEDI Facebook Group »](#)  
[Committee on the Environment COTE Awards »](#)
- Environment Oregon**
- Friends of Trees**   
Hosting multiple tree planting events in April. Look for the tree icon on the calendar below.

Support Local

- Happy Cup Coffee**  
[Ethically sourced](#) and employs adults with disabilities.
- New Season Market**  
Locally sourced foods and products.
- EX Novo Brewing**  
Nonprofit Brewery. Donates 100% of profit to fight local poverty, oppression and economic inequality.

EcoChallenge: Earth Month

Local Events

Days to Know







**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Women’s History Month started as Women’s History Week and is intended to honor women’s contributions in American History. Selected to correspond with International Women’s Day on March 8, it has been in the president’s annual proclamations since 1995.

HOW IT STARTED/HOW IT’S GOING

Progress for women’s rights is being undone by effects of the global pandemic

A lot of progress for women’s rights has been made in the decades since we began celebrating Womens History Month. We were on the verge of celebrating some key milestones in 2020...until the global pandemic hit.

In the year since the pandemic first began, many groups have been looking into how the pandemic is adversely affecting women. Here are some highlights of the effects this outbreak is having on local and global women’s issues:

- Global gender equity is dropping »
- Latinas are leaving the workforce »
- The gender pay gap is set to increase »
- Suicide rates for Japanese women have increased »
- Women’s healthcare and wellness is taking a backseat »

CELEBRATE

Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls

by Favilli, Elena & Cavallo, Francesca »

Suzan-Lori Parks’

The first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Drama »

POW Film Festival

Films by Women and Non-Binary Directors »

Six Ways to Celebrate Women’s History Month at Work »

RESOURCES



Watch

- Self Made  
Netflix
- Hidden Figures  
Netflix
- Becoming  
Netflix
- Radioactive  
Amazon Prime



Read

- Where Are the Women Architects?  
Despina Stratigakos
- The Radium Girls  
Kate Moore
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks  
Rebecca Skloot



Get Involved

- Oregon NOW (National Organization for Women)
- Dress for Sucess
- Women’s Foundation of Oregon
- Center for Women’s Leadership



Support Local

- Third Eye Books
- Dirty Lettuce (food truck)
- Wildfang
- Freeland Spirits

Local Events

Days to Know



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH | FEBRUARY 2021



[Learn more about black history through the History Channel »](#)

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### USA and Canada

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by Black persons and a time for recognizing their central role in history. Also known as African American History Month in the USA, the event grew out of “Negro History Week.” Other countries, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history. The theme for 2021 is **“Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity”** explores the African diaspora, and the spread of Black families across the United States.

## TERMINOLOGY

How do persons of African heritage in the anglosphere style themselves?



### Australia

- Aboriginal
- Indigenous
- First Nations

[READ MORE »](#)



### Canada

- Black Canadians
- Caribbean Canadian
- African Canadian (less often)

[READ MORE »](#)



### Europe

- Afro-Europeans
- Black Europeans



### UK

- Black Brits
- Afro-Caribbean
- British (country of origin)

[READ MORE »](#)



### USA

Not all Black people are African American. Immigrants versus descendants of enslaved persons

[READ MORE »](#)

## CELEBRATE

[How to Celebrate Black History Month »](#)

[26 Black Americans you Don't Know but Should »](#)

[CJ Walker \(Sarah Breedlove\)](#)

Read about the first self-made female millionaire »

[BLM movement nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize](#)

[Read about Black Nobel Laureates](#)

## RESOURCES



### Watch

**13th**  
Netflix

**Selma**  
Hulu

**All the Way**  
HBO, Hulu,  
Amazon Prime

**Amistad**  
HBO, Hulu  
Amazon Prime

**Erin Jones: Bridges**  
Youtube



### Read

**Why are the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?**  
Beverly Daniel Tatum

**Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents**  
Isabel Wilkerson

**The Warmth of Other Sons**  
Isabel Wilkerson

**A Promised Land**  
Barack Obama



### Get Involved

**NOMA**  
(Portland Chapter)

**A4LE Regional/Chapter JEDI Committee**

### Local Events

**Feb 1 – 29**  
Black History Festival »

**Feb 5 – Mar 10**  
Virtual Film Festival »

**Feb 16**  
NOMA-PDX Inaugural Event »

**Feb 18 – 27**  
Portland Jazz Festival »

### Holidays

**Feb 1**  
National Freedom Day

**Feb 4**  
Rosa Parks Day

**Feb 21**  
Chinese New Year