

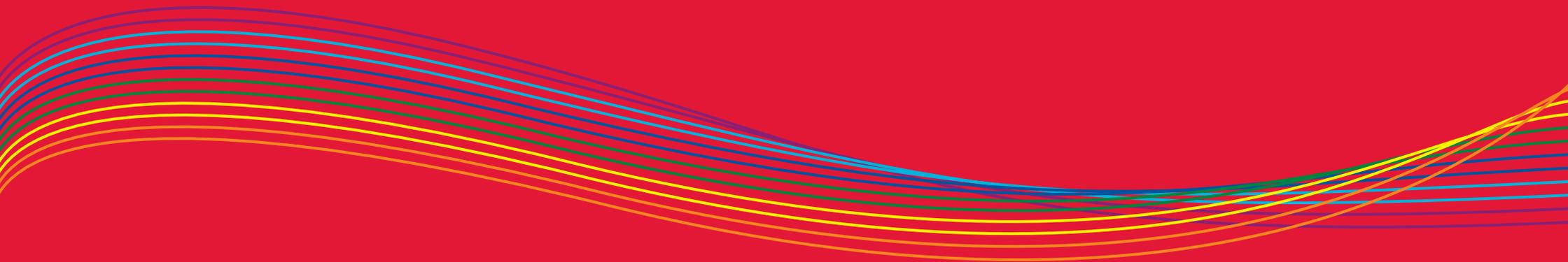


UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

Diversity, equity & inclusion

Inclusion Calendar

2025 - 2026





Preface



Dear students and colleagues,

Each of us is part of the UvA community of 50,000 students and staff, and we all contribute to its diversity. Everyone brings a unique mix of characteristics, such as our background, language, religion, gender, mental and physical health, and so on. This diversity also includes a mix of knowledge, skills, and experiences. It is precisely this diversity that allows us to learn from each other and thus develop new solutions to the problems of our time. This helps us to keep developing – as scholars, as citizens, and as members of society. Celebrating our differences strengthens this process, which is why we as a university recognise and value our diversity.

For this reason, I wholeheartedly recommend this Inclusion Calendar as a tool to bring us together. In these times, it is important to continue to foster mutual exchanges, regardless of the different perspectives we bring. It is enriching to get to know each other's best moments and experience them together. (Employees can also exchange an existing day off for a different holiday.) So, use this calendar to inspire conversations about each other's traditions, and to find opportunities to celebrate together!

Peter-Paul Verbeek
Rector Magnificus of the Executive Board



Introduction

Dear colleague,

On an international campus like ours, you are bound to come into contact with cultures that have different customs and traditions from your own. It can be enriching to pay attention to holidays with colleagues, but it is difficult to be aware of every day.

With this Inclusion Calendar, we want to raise awareness around these days and make our campus more inclusive. Therefore, we have created three categories of days that are important for you and your team to be aware of.

Three categories

The first category is Meaningful Days. This pertains to religious holidays and memorial days, as well as the days designated as fixed public holidays according to Dutch law. These days make it easier for people to accommodate each other, ensuring, for example, that a work lunch isn't inadvertently scheduled during Ramadan, or a strategy session during Carnival.

We created a DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) category. This category includes days that draw attention to marginalised groups. This encompasses days like World Braille Day, International Women's Day, or Diversity Day. These days can serve as opportunities to initiate discussions or organize activities — whether for your team, department, domain, faculty, or the broader UvA community.

The third category focuses on Issue Days. These are days relevant to the university, educational institutions in general, or can be used as hooks to address specific programs within the UvA and societal issues. For instance, Bike to Work Day can be used to bring attention to initiatives like the [Bike Kitchen](#).

Are you missing an important day?

Deze kalender is het resultaat van een samenwerking van het Central Diversity Office en HRM Bestuursstaf. We hopen hiermee tegemoet te komen aan de wens van veel collega's en studenten naar een dergelijke kalender. We hebben geprobeerd om met zoveel mogelijk rekening te houden en zo compleet mogelijk te zijn in de samenstelling van de kalender. Mis je toch een belangrijke dag? Geef je suggestie dan door aan diversity@uva.nl.

Want to organise something?

Would you like to organise something for this day or another? Contact diversity@uva.nl to enquire about the possibilities for financial support through [Campus Connections Support](#). As a UvA student or staff member, you can receive up to €1,500 to help bring your idea to life!



September 2025

Suicide Prevention Month

Week	36	37	38	39	40
College week	1	2	3	4	5
Mo	1 Opening Academic Year	8	15	22 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) + Week of Work Happiness + Vitality Week	29
Tu	2	9	16 Prinsjesdag	23 Int. Day of Sign Languages + Day of Bisexuality	30
We	3	10 World Suicide Prevention Day	17	24	
Th	4	11	18 Int. Equal Pay Day	25	
Fr	5	12	19	26	
Sa	6	13	20	27 Int. Day of the Deaf	
Su	7 Start Pitru Paksha	14	21 Int. Day of Peace	28 Int. Day for Universal Access to Information	



Highlighted day | 23 September

International Day of Sign Languages

What is it?

23 September has been the International Day of Sign Languages since 2018. This day highlights the importance of sign languages and the right of people who are deaf and hard-of-hearing to use their own language. Worldwide, there are more than 72 million deaf people who together use over 300 different sign languages. For them, sign language is the language through which they learn, communicate, express themselves, and connect with others. This day shows how vital these languages are for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals to fully participate in society.

What celebrations are part of it?

On this day, there are workshops, lectures, and cultural events. Media and online campaigns also draw attention by highlighting the experiences of deaf people and the importance of communicating in your own language. These initiatives aim to raise awareness about sign languages, Deaf culture, and the challenges that deaf and hard-of-hearing people face.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to acknowledge this day and support the people who celebrate it?

The UvA has [SignLab](#), a research group where deaf and hearing staff work together to explore how technology can make the world more accessible for deaf and hard-of-hearing people. You can also study Sign Linguistics

at the UvA! More information can be found here: [Sign Linguistics - University of Amsterdam](#)

You can also follow online Dutch Sign Language (Nederlandse Gebarentaal, NGT) lessons via TYD, and there are many free videos available online to help you learn NGT vocabulary.

Important: We explicitly refer to Dutch Sign Language and Dutch Sign Language interpreters, not to 'deaf language, 'deaf interpreters', or similar terms. If a deaf person and a hearing person need an interpreter to communicate, the interpreter supports both parties, not just the deaf person. That is why the term Dutch Sign Language (interpreter) is the most neutral way to describe this service.

Want to organise something?

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October 2025

ADHD Awareness month
Black Achievement Month

Week	40	41	42	43	44
College week	5	6	7	8	9
Mo		6 Accessibility Week + Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)	13	20 World Statistics Day	27
Tu		7 Diversity Day	14	21 Diwali (Festival of Lights)	28
We	1 Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement)	8	15	22	29
Th	2	9	16	23	30
Fr	3	10 World Mental Health Day	17	24	31 Halloween + Reformation Day
Sa	4 World Animal Day + Weekend of Science	11 National Coming Out Day	18 World Menopause Day	25	
Su	5	12	19	26 Intersex Awareness Day	



Highlighted day | 18 October

World Menopause Day

What is it?

World Menopause Day draws global attention to menopause and the impact it has on the health, well-being, and quality of life of people in this stage of life. Menopause is the period when menstruation stops, usually between the ages of 45 and 55. During this phase, people often experience physical and mental changes, such as hot flushes, sleep disturbances, concentration difficulties, and mood swings. Such symptoms can interfere with daily life. Awareness and access to reliable information are essential to support health and well-being.

What celebrations are part of it?

On this day, (health)organisations often launch campaigns to inform people about menopause and its impact. There are also events, workshops, and lectures to raise awareness about menopause, its symptoms, and the available treatment options. Websites, blogs, and social media are used to share information and provide support online.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to acknowledge this day and support the people for whom it holds great meaning?

Menopause affects the health and well-being of many, yet it is still rarely discussed. That is why open conversation is strongly encouraged to help break the taboo and offer support. Do you know someone going through or who has gone through menopause? What would you like to learn

from them or better understand? Imagine for a moment what it might be like to experience menopausal symptoms while studying or working. By acknowledging menopause, we contribute to an inclusive university where health and well-being are topics everyone can discuss.

Want to organise something?

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November 2025

Week	44	45	46	47	48
College week	9	10	11	12	13
Mo		3	10 Day of Informal Care + Week of Work Stress + Equal Opportunities Week	17 Int. Student's Day	24
Tu		4	11 Saint Martin	18	25 Srefidensi Dey + Int. Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women + Orange the World
We		5	12	19 Int. Men's Day	26
Th		6	13	20 Int. Transgender Day of Remembrance + Int. Children's Rights Day	27
Fr		7	14 Equal Pay Day	21	28
Sa	1 All Saint's Day + Día de los Muertos	8	15	22	29
Su	2 All Souls' Day	9	16	23	30



Highlighted day | 1 and 2 November

Día de los Muertos

What is it?

Día de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, is a holiday where remembering those who have passed and celebrating life come together. It is an ancient tradition that combines Catholic and pre-Columbian religious customs.

This holiday is especially prominent in Mexico but is also celebrated in other Latin American countries, the Philippines, and certain regions of the United States. During these two days, the lives of deceased family members, friends, and even pets are remembered and celebrated. It is a time for reflection, connection, and honouring the bond with loved ones, even after death.

What celebrations are part of it?

It is believed that during this celebration, the souls of departed loved ones temporarily return. Families and friends often gather at cemeteries to welcome them. They clean the graves and decorate them with flowers, candles, photographs, and personal items. Colourful altars (ofrendas) are also created at home, where offerings are placed, often including food, drinks, and flowers.

During Día de los Muertos, life is celebrated. People eat, drink, sing, dance, and share memories together. Fireworks, parades, and symbols

such as skulls (calaveras) are also part of the celebration.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on these days and the people who celebrate them?

Día de los Muertos is about cherishing memories and visibly honouring those who came before us. Everyone copes with loss and remembrance in their own way. Do you know someone who celebrates Día de los Muertos? What would you like to learn from them or better understand? And how can we, as the UvA, create more space, understanding, and respect for grief, remembrance, and cultural traditions surrounding death? Engage in conversation, show interest, and learn from each other's perspectives.

Want to organise something?

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December 2025

Week	49	50	51	52	1
College week	14	15	16	17	18
Mo	1 World AIDS Day + Campus Core Week	8	15	22	29
Tu	2 Int. Day for the Abolition of Slavery	9	16	23	30
We	3 Int. Day for People with Disabilities	10 Int. Human Rights Day	17	24 Christmas Eve	31 New Year's Eve
Th	4	11	18 Int. Migrant Day	25 Christmas Day	
Fr	5 St Nicholas	12 Purple Friday	19	26 Boxing Day	
Sa	6	13	20	27	
Su	7	14 Hanukkah (Festival of Lights)	21 Shab-e-Yalda (Yalda Night)	28	



Highlighted day | 14 until 22 December

Hanukkah

What is it?

Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights or the Feast of Dedication, is an important eight-day Jewish holiday. It commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem by the Maccabees after their victory over the Greeks. According to tradition, the Maccabees found only a single jar of kosher oil, normally enough to keep the Menorah burning for one day, but miraculously, the flame lasted for eight days. This miracle is central to Hanukkah. At the same time, the holiday is also a reminder and celebration of the victory over oppression and the preservation of Jewish faith and identity.

What celebrations are part of it?

The most important tradition during Hanukkah is lighting the candles on the Hanukkiah, a nine-branched candelabrum. Every evening, an additional candle is lit with the help of the shamash (the helper candle in the centre). This ritual takes place both at home and in the synagogue, accompanied by Hebrew blessings.

Hanukkah is a true family celebration, where people come together each evening to eat, sing, exchange gifts, and play games. Children often play with a dreidel, a special spinning top marked with Hebrew letters, and in Amsterdam, the board game Ganzenbord is a popular tradition. Fried

foods are typical for Hanukkah, such as latkes (potato pancakes) and sufganiyot (jam-filled doughnuts).

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this holiday and the people who celebrate it?

Hanukkah is an important Jewish festival of light, joy, and connection. Do you know someone who celebrates Hanukkah? What would you like to learn from them or better understand? Let's work together at the UvA to create more visibility, space, and respect for all our students and staff. Start the conversation, ask questions, and listen to each other's stories. In doing so, we help build an inclusive and understanding community where everyone feels welcome.

Want to organise something?

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January 2026

Week	1	2	3	4	5
College week	18	19	20	21	22
Mo		5	12	19 Martin Luther King Day	26
Tu		6	13	20	27 Holocaust Remembrance Day
We		7 Orthodox Christmas	14	21	28
Th	1 New Year's Day	8	15 Dies Natalis UvA	22	29
Fr	2	9	16 Lailat al Miraj (Ascension Day Prophet Muhammad)	23	30
Sa	3 Mahayana New Year (Buddhist New Year)	10	17	24 International Day of Education	31
Su	4 World Braille Day	11	18 World Religion Day	25	



Highlighted day | 15 January

Dies Natalis UvA

What is it?

Dies Natalis (UvA) is the birthday of the University of Amsterdam and one of the university's most important annual traditions. On this day, we reflect on the history, achievements, and future of the institution. It is a moment of pride and connection for students, lecturers, alumni, and everyone involved with the university.

Originally, the celebration took place on 8 January, commemorating the founding of the Athenaeum Illustre in 1632, the predecessor of the UvA. Since 2025, Dies Natalis has been celebrated on the third Thursday of January to allow more people to attend and to provide additional time for preparations.

What celebrations are part of it?

Dies Natalis is a festive day filled with tradition, academic ceremony, and recognition. During the celebration, professors appear in academic gowns, the rector delivers a speech, and representatives from other universities, alumni, and students are present. The day often includes performances and other celebratory activities.

A key part of the celebration is the presentation of the Teacher of the Year award. Honorary doctorates are also awarded to individuals who have

made an exceptional scientific contribution without having completed a traditional doctoral dissertation.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this celebration and those who take part in it?

Dies Natalis is more than just an academic tradition, it is a moment to look back and to look ahead. How does your study, research, or commitment contribute to the university and to society? What do science and education mean to you? Whether you are a staff member, student, alumnus, or guest, Dies Natalis is an opportunity to reflect on who we are as an academic community and how we can continue building the future of the UvA together.

Want to organise something?

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February 2026

Black History Month

Week	5	6	7	8	9
College week	22	23	24	25	26
Mo		2	9	16	23
Tu		3	10	17 Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year) + Start Ramadan	24
We		4	11 Int. Day of Women and Girls in Science	18 Ash Wednesday	25 Remembrance of the February strike
Th		5	12	19	26
Fr		6	13	20 World Day of Social Justice	27
Sa		7	14	21	28
Su	1	8	15 Parinirvana Day (The Death of Buddha) + Maha Shivaratri (The Night of Shiva) + Carnival	22	



Highlighted day | from 17 February until 19 March

Ramadan

What is it?

Ramadan is a period focused on reflection, connection, and deepening one's faith. It is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar and, according to tradition, the month in which the Qur'an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. To celebrate and commemorate this, people fast throughout the month from sunrise to sunset. But Ramadan is about more than fasting, it is also a time for self-reflection, self-discipline, solidarity, generosity, and gratitude.

What celebrations are part of it?

During Ramadan, people fast from sunrise to sunset. Before sunrise, the pre-fast meal is eaten, known as Suhur. The daytime offers space for rest and reflection. In the evening, people gather together. After sunset, the fast is traditionally broken with Iftar, a special meal often shared with family and friends, which begins with water and dates.

Throughout the month, there is an emphasis on prayer, reading the Qur'an, and giving to those in need. Ramadan is festively concluded with Eid al-Fitr. This is a celebration of joy, gratitude, and togetherness, where families and friends come together, wear new clothes, enjoy special meals, and exchange gifts.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this period and support those who participate in Ramadan?

Ramadan is an important period for many. Do you know someone participating in Ramadan? What would you like to learn from them or better understand? Let's work together at the UvA to create greater visibility, space, and respect. Start conversations, ask questions, and listen to each other's stories. Together, we build an inclusive and understanding community where everyone feels at home.

Want to organise something?

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March 2026

Women's History Month
Deaf History Month (13 March - 15 April)
Queer History Month (initiated by IHLIA)

Week	9	10	11	12	13	14
College week	26	27	28	29	30	31
Mo		2	9	16	23	30
Tu		3	10	17	24	31
We		4	11	18	25	
Th		5	12	19	26	
Fr		6	13	20	27	
Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su	1	8	15	22	29	
		Purim + National Week without Meat and Dairy		Working from Home Day + Lailat ul-Qadr (Night of Decision) + Week Against Racism		
						Int. Transgender Day of Visibility
		Holi		Eid al-Fitr (Suikerfeest) + Start Chaitra Navratri (Spring Festival)		
				Nowruz (Persian New Year) + Int. Day of Happiness		
				Int. Day against Racism and Discrimination		
	Zero Discrimination Day + Int. Wheelchair Day + World Compliment Day	Int. Women's Day				



Highlighted day | 4 March

Holi

What is it?

Holi, also known as the Festival of Colours, is a joyful and vibrant Hindu celebration that marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring. For many, Holi also signals the start of the new year. The festival is celebrated on the day after the full moon in the Hindu month of Phalgun, usually falling in February or March.

Holi refers to the ancient story of Prahlad, a young boy who stayed true to his devotion to Vishnu and survived the flames. His enemies, Holika and Hiranyakashipu, who symbolised evil, were ultimately defeated. The festival serves as a reminder that good ultimately triumphs and that each new season offers space for hope and connection.

What celebrations are part of it?

The day before Holi is called Holika Dahan, during which a bonfire is lit as a symbol of the victory of good over evil (Holika). The next day, the famous Festival of Colours takes place. People throw brightly coloured powder and water at one another as a symbol of equality and togetherness.

Holi is a celebration of joy, unity, and life. Families and friends gather to sing, dance, and enjoy traditional treats such as Gujiya, a sweet pastry

filled with nuts, fruit, and cardamom. Religious rituals also take place, including the offering of puja.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this holiday and the people who celebrate it?

Holi is a lively Hindu spring festival filled with colour, joy, and the celebration of good. Do you know someone who celebrates Holi? What would you like to learn from them or better understand? Let's work together at the UvA to create greater visibility, space, and respect for all our students and staff. Engage in conversation, ask questions, and listen to each other's stories. Together, we can build an inclusive and understanding community where everyone feels welcome.

Want to organise something?

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April 2026

Autism Acceptance Month
Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Week	14	15	16	17	18
College week	31	32	33	34	35
Mo		6 Easter Monday + Int. Asexual Day	13	20	27 King's Day (The Netherlands)
Tu		7 World Health Day	14	21 World Creativity and Innovation Day	28 World Day for Safety and Health at Work
We	1 Start Passover (Escape from Slavery)	8	15	22 World Earth Day	29
Th	2 World Autism Awareness Day	9	16	23 World Book Day	30
Fr	3 Good Friday	10	17	24	
Sa	4 Qingming festival (Tomb-Sweeping Day)	11	18	25	
Su	5 Easter Sunday	12	19 National Day Against Bullying	26 Lesbian Visibility Day	



Highlighted day | 5 and 6 April

Easter

What is it?

Easter is one of the most important celebrations in Christianity. It commemorates and celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday, following his crucifixion on Good Friday. For Christians, this symbolises God's forgiveness.

In the Netherlands and many other Western countries, Easter falls on the Sunday and Monday after the first full moon of spring. Easter Sunday also marks the end of the forty-day period of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday.

What celebrations are part of it?

The Sunday before Easter is known as Palm Sunday. In some parts of the Netherlands, this is celebrated with a procession of children carrying decorated Palm Pasen sticks, which traditionally feature a bread figure shaped like a cockerel.

In Protestant churches, Easter begins with a special sunrise service. In Catholic tradition, a Paaswake (Easter Vigil) is held on the night of Easter Saturday. Orthodox Christians usually celebrate Easter thirteen days later, as they follow a different calendar.

In addition to religious celebrations, Easter is also a time for gatherings

and traditions. In the Netherlands, it is often celebrated with an Easter breakfast or brunch, often with family and friends. Eating eggs and hunting for (chocolate) Easter eggs are popular customs.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this day and the people who celebrate it?

Easter is an important celebration for many Christians, rich with traditions and personal meaning. Do you know someone who celebrates Easter? What would you like to learn from them or better understand? Let's work together at the UvA to create greater visibility, space, and respect for all our students and staff. Start the conversation, ask questions, and listen to each other's stories. Together, we can build an inclusive and understanding community where everyone feels welcome.

Want to organise something?

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May 2026

Mental Health Awareness Month

Week	18	19	20	21	22
College week	35	36	37	38	39
Day	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
		4 Remembrance Day	11	18	25 Whit Monday
		5 Liberation Day	12	19	26
		6	13	20	27 Eid al-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)
		7	14 Ascension Day	21 World Day for Cultural Development + Global Accessibility Awareness Day + Bike to Work Day + Shavuot (Three Pilgrimage Festivals)	28
	1 Labour Day	8	15	22	29
	2 Wesak (Buddha Day)	9	16	23	30
	3 National Commemoration of Dutch Colonial Past	10	17 Int. Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia	24 Int. Pansexual and Panromantic Visibility Day + Pentecost	31



Highlighted day | 2 May

Wesak

What is it?

Wesak, also known as Buddha Day, is one of the three most important Buddhist festivals. On this day, the birth, enlightenment, and passing of Gautama Buddha are commemorated. It is seen as a moment for reflection, gratitude, and renewing one's commitment to the teachings of the Buddha, which focus on compassion, peace, and wisdom. The festival takes place annually on the last day of the month of Vaishakha in the Hindu calendar.

What celebrations are part of it?

Wesak is widely celebrated in many Southeast Asian countries and is often a public holiday there. People visit temples, meditate, and make offerings such as flowers, candles, and incense. A well-known ritual is the 'Bathing of the Buddha,' during which water is poured over a Buddha statue as a symbol of purification and new beginnings. Many people also eat vegetarian meals on this day as a tribute to all living beings. In addition, there are processions, parades, and charity events, although traditions vary by country and community.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this day and the people who celebrate it?

Wesak is about compassion, enlightenment, and connection. How can we, as the UvA and as individuals, contribute to creating more space and

recognition for this holiday? Perhaps you know someone who celebrates Wesak. What would you like to learn about their tradition or experience? By being curious, engaging in conversation, and showing respect, we demonstrate that spiritual diversity matters. Together, we create space for meaningful moments such as Wesak.

Want to organise something?

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June 2026

Pride Month

	Week 23	24	25	26	27
	College week 40	41	42	43	
Mo	1	8	15	22	29
Tu	2	9	16 <small>Muharram (Islamic New Year) + Neurodiversity Pride Day</small>	23	30
We	3	10	17	24	
Th	4	11	18	25	
Fr	5 <small>Anniversary of the Arrival of Indian Labourers to Suriname</small>	12	19 <small>Juneteenth</small>	26	
Sa	6	13	20 <small>World Refugee Day</small>	27 <small>Pink Saturday</small>	
Su	7	14	21	28 <small>Stonewall Riots Anniversary</small>	



Highlighted day | 16 June

Neurodiversity Pride Day

What is it?

On 16 June, we celebrate Neurodiversity Pride Day, a day that highlights the unique talents and perspectives of neurodivergent people. Neurodiversity refers to the natural variation in how people think, learn, and process information, for example, in the context of autism, ADHD, dyslexia, or giftedness. Neurodiversity Pride Day is a global movement that celebrates these differences, raises awareness, and promotes acceptance. This day reminds us that neurodiversity is not a limitation but a valuable source of creativity, innovation, and strength. Differences in the brain do not make our society weaker, they make it richer and more resilient.

What celebrations are part of it?

Neurodiversity Pride Day is celebrated in many ways, both in person and online. Events are organised to raise awareness about neurodiversity and to challenge stereotypes. As the diversity within the neurodivergent community is celebrated, festive activities such as social gatherings, dance events, and local celebrations also take place. These activities aim to be accessible to all neurodivergent individuals and their allies, with a strong focus on creating safe and inclusive spaces.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this day and the people who celebrate it?

Neurodiversity Pride Day reminds us that thinking differently can be a strength, as long as there is space and understanding for it. How do we, at the UvA, support different ways of thinking, learning, and working? What can you do to help create an environment where neurodivergent students and staff feel seen, valued, and respected? Start the conversation, show interest, and help build an inclusive university where everyone's unique perspective matters.

Want to show your support? Wave the Neurodiversity Pride flag. This purple and cyan flag with a white kite symbolises pride, solidarity, and connection.

Want to organise something?

Would you like to organise something for this day or another? Contact diversity@uva.nl to enquire about the possibilities for financial support through [Campus Connection Support](#). As a UvA student or staff member, you can receive up to €1,500 to help bring your idea to life!



July 2026

Disability Pride Month

Week	27	28	29	30	31
College week					
Mo		6	13 World ADHD Awareness Day	20	27
Tu		7	14 Int. Day of Non-binary People	21	28
We	1 Ketu Koti	8	15	22	29
Th	2	9	16	23	30
Fr	3	10	17	24	31
Sa	4	11	18 Nelson Mandela Day	25 Start WorldPride Amsterdam	
Su	5	12	19	26	



Highlighted day | from 25 July until 8 August

WorldPride Amsterdam

What is it?

Every year, freedom and diversity in love are celebrated in Amsterdam with Pride Amsterdam. This year, the celebration will be even bigger, as WorldPride is coming to our city for the very first time. WorldPride is the largest international event that promotes visibility and awareness of LGBTQIA+ issues. People from all over the world come together to celebrate who they are and to show that everyone should be able to be themselves, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the legalisation of same-sex marriage, through which the Netherlands made global history in 2001. According to the organisers, this silver anniversary is a powerful moment to inspire and connect the world once again, and to reflect on the progress made and the road still ahead.

What celebrations are part of it?

During WorldPride, numerous events and activities take place across Amsterdam, including parades, marches, festivals, and conferences. One of the most famous elements is the Canal Parade, a large and colourful boat parade through the canals. There are also performances, arts and culture programmes, debates, parties, and gatherings all focused on connection, visibility, and the celebration of love, freedom, and diversity.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this day and the people who celebrate it?

WorldPride reminds us that being yourself is still not a given everywhere. How visible, safe, and inclusive is the UvA for LGBTQIA+ students, staff, and guests? What do freedom, love, and equality mean to you in your studies, work, or daily life? Do you know someone involved in Pride or committed to LGBTQIA+ rights? What would you like to learn from them or better understand? Start the conversation, show interest, and celebrate in a way that creates space for everyone.

Want to organise something?

Would you like to organise something for this day or another? Contact diversity@uva.nl to enquire about the possibilities for financial support through [Campus Connection Support](#). As a UvA student or staff member, you can receive up to €1,500 to help bring your idea to life!



August 2026

Week	31	32	33	34	35	36
College week						
Mo		3	10	17 Dia ti Tula (Dia di Lucha pa Libertat or Day of the Fight for Freedom)	24	31
Tu		4	11	18	25	
We		5	12 Int. Youth Day	19 Chung Yuan (Hell Festival)	26	
Th		6	13	20	27	
Fr		7 Int. Transgender Rights Day	14	21	28	
Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su	2	9 Int. Indigenous Peoples' Day	16	23 Int. Day of Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition	30	

* **Krishna Janmashtami** (birth of Shrii Krishna) on 4 September has fallen off this calendar, due to the switch from calendar year to academic year. This Hindu festival celebrates the birth of the god Krishna, with prayers, singing and dancing.



Highlighted day | 17 August

Dia di Tula

What is it?

Dia di Tula, also known as the Day of the Battle for Freedom (*Dia di Lucha pa Libertat*), is celebrated on 17 August. This day honours the 1795 slave revolt on Curaçao, led by Tula, the Curaçaoan freedom fighter who is seen as a national hero and symbol of resistance. It is a moment to reflect on his courageous fight for freedom, as well as the broader history of slavery and oppression. Dia di Tula was established, in part, out of a desire to give greater visibility to Tula's resistance and bravery, as many feel these stories receive too little attention during the official commemoration of the abolition of slavery on 1 July.

What celebrations are part of it?

Dia di Tula focuses on remembrance, culture, and community. In both Curaçao and the Netherlands, ceremonies, lectures, and gatherings are organised to create space for reflection. Curaçaoan culture plays a central role, with Tambú, the traditional music and dance form that expresses emotion, resistance, and pride, being especially significant. There are also workshops, performances, dance, and markets with Caribbean food, such as the Tula Market in Tilburg.

What can we, as the UvA and as individuals, do to reflect on this day and the people who celebrate it?

Dia di Tula draws attention to the history of slavery, as well as the stories

of resistance, courage, and perseverance that are part of that history. What do you know about Tula and the Curaçaoan slave revolt? How can we create space within the UvA for greater knowledge, recognition, and visibility? Do you know someone who celebrates Dia di Tula? What would you like to learn from them or better understand? Engage in conversation, show respect, and learn from one another's perspectives.

Want to organise something?

Would you like to organise something for this day or another? Contact diversity@uva.nl to enquire about the possibilities for financial support through [Campus Connection Support](#). As a UvA student or staff member, you can receive up to €1,500 to help bring your idea to life!