

# DEI Committee NEWSLETTER



## January is a great time to set a DEI resolution

Here are some ideas of what you could do in your classroom or at your school:

- Reflect on your DEI goals for the year (teachpoint or otherwise) - what positive progress have you made and what can you still do?
- Read [this list of DEI resolutions](#) and choose one to incorporate into your life, your student or family interactions, or your classroom.
- Read this article about [DEI resolutions](#) from the Glen Urquhart School in Beverly.
- Take Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as an opportunity to bring up racial justice with your students. Here's a great [list of activities](#) for all grade levels.

## Calendar - December

(Source: Seramount)

January has no heritage months.

For more information about the following events and holidays, [click here](#):

**January 1:** New Year's Day

**January 1:** Feast Day of St. Basil, Eastern Orthodox Church  
**January 3:** Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, in the Catholic church

**January 4:** World Braille Day, celebrated on the birthday of Louis Braille, the inventor of Braille

**January 5:** Twelfth Night, celebrated by some Christians.

**January 6:** Epiphany or Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings Day) observed by some Christians

**January 6:** Christmas, Armenian Orthodox Christians

**January 7:** Christmas, Eastern Orthodox Christians

**January 9:** Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, a Sikh Guru.

**January 10:** Bodhi Day (Lunar calendar), a holiday about the Buddha receiving enlightenment.

**January 13:** Lori-Maghi, an annual Sikh festival.

**January 14:** Makar Sankranti, a harvest festival in parts of India.

**January 16–17** (sundown to sundown): Tu B'shevat or Rosh Hashanah La'llanot, a Jewish holiday recognizing "The New Year of the Trees."

**January 18:** Mahayana New Year, a holiday celebrated by the Mahayana Buddhist branch.

**January 18–25:** The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

**January 17:** Martin Luther King Jr. Day, in memory of his birthday on January 15.

**January 17:** World Religion Day, observed by the Bahá'í faith

**January 19:** Timkat, an Ethiopian Orthodox holiday

**January 26:** Republic Day of India, recognizing Independence and the Consitution of India

**January 27:** The International Day of Commemoration to remember the victims of the Holocaust; Holocaust Remembrance Day in the US; UN Holocaust Memorial Day.

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We are accepting submissions: [Contact us](#) to contribute to this newsletter in the future.

## NEC Diversity events

**DEI Drop-in Group:** Join us for our monthly meeting Monday, January 31, 3-4 pm.

Check your email for reminder and zoom link!

**Outside PD Opportunities:** Join our mailing list for links to DEI-related PD opportunities.

**Mailing List Link:** [tinyurl.com/nsecdiversity](https://tinyurl.com/nsecdiversity)

Join our mailing list to get regular updates on DEI-themed PD, articles, videos and more!

## DEI Keyword of the Month

**Racial healing:** January 18 is the [National Day of Racial Healing](#). Observed on the Tuesday after Martin Luther King Day since 2017, it is a “[time](#)” to contemplate our shared values and create the blueprint together for #HowWeHeal from the effects of racism.” Check out this [conversation guide](#) or this [action kit](#) for ideas about how to observe this day at home or at school.

## DEI Article of the Month: Continuing Learning About Holidays

This [article](#) from Learning for Justice gives tips of how to address religious holidays with your students.

Holidays occur throughout the year, not just in December, so there is still time to find out which holidays are celebrated by your students and their families and decide if you would like to spend time learning more about them with your students. [Read the article](#) for more tips about this topic.

## DEI In Action: Inclusive Holiday Celebrations

Several classrooms across NEC went out of their way this past holiday season to highlight and learn about different holiday traditions that are celebrated here in the US and abroad. See our [holiday photo folder](#) for more photos, and enjoy a sample of the multicultural holiday celebrations and decorations! Send any photos from your school to [Kristen](#) and she will add them to the folder.



## NEC Community Spotlight: NSAU Door Decorating Contest

At the Northshore Academy Upper School, students participated in a multicultural door decorating contest to develop the Social Emotional Learning competency of Social Awareness. The goal was to give students the opportunity to take the perspective of others, become more aware of others' cultures, beliefs, and interests, and to represent diverse backgrounds and cultures. Check out our [holiday photo folder](#) for more photos of this event!



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