VUSN Diversity in Action
Cultural Diversity Calendar of Events

March 2018

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion - Diversity in Action at VUSN is updated monthly. The page features a rolling collection of all advertised University, School of Nursing and local cultural events along with national and international nursing conferences having a diversity and inclusion emphasis. In addition, there is a list of current ethnic-minority nursing organizations as well as other nursing organizations, whose focus is on culture, diversity and inclusion as relates to nursing education, practice and research. Explore the monthly announcements and find out what’s going on in the area of diversity and nursing. Enjoy.

Vanderbilt School of Nursing – Office of Cultural Diversity
Jana.lauderdale@vanderbilt.edu or pam.harrison@vanderbilt.edu
School of Nursing announces official diversity and inclusion position statement

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) has adopted a new diversity and inclusion statement that sets out its dedication to the equity, diversity and inclusion of all students, faculty and staff and proclaims its responsibilities as an educational institution to foster and graduate highly educated and culturally sensitive health care professionals.

The statement was developed by a diversity and inclusion task force set up in 2017 and approved by the school’s executive committee in mid-January.

The task force was chaired by Assistant Professor Geri Reeves, PhD, MSN’93. “Writing the diversity and inclusivity statement was the collective effort of a diverse group of individuals representing faculty, staff, and students,” Reeves said. “In the process of developing the statement, we learned that each of us care deeply about diversity and inclusivity at VUSN and beyond. Our hope is that the statement will be a written reminder of our common humanity and need for each other.”

Dean and Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing Linda Norman, DNS, FAAN, said she welcomed the statement and thanked the group for its work.

“It’s important that we as educators proclaim our belief in the value of all people and the need for inclusion, diversity and equity,” she said. “Our society is richer — we are richer — when we learn from and work with people who bring experiences and perspectives different than our own.”

“Our students are the nursing professionals of the future, charged with providing care and health care solutions to an increasingly and wonderfully diverse society,” she continued. “I hope this statement communicates to future and current students, faculty and staff that we need their diversity and welcome them here at VUSN.”

The diversity and inclusivity statement is part of a greater effort by VUSN to convey its support of historically underrepresented and marginalized groups and individuals. In addition to adopting the statement, VUSN’s Executive Committee also endorsed the task force’s recommendation to establish a standing diversity and inclusion committee within the school. That recommendation will be sent to VUSN faculty for a vote later this month. If approved, the committee will be chaired by Reeves.
“We see the statement as a starting point in the initiative to make VUSN an even more inclusive place to work and learn,” she said.

**VUSN’s diversity and inclusivity statement is:**

At Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN), we are intentional about and assume accountability for fostering advancement and respect for equity, diversity, and inclusion for all students, faculty, and staff. We support our efforts with respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person. To bring to life our vision of inclusive excellence, we seek to recruit, admit, hire, retain, promote, and support diverse and underrepresented groups of students, staff, and faculty. We value social justice and human rights. We embrace the plurality of humanity that composes our community including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnic origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, and religion. We affirm the inherent worth of each individual in order to protect, promote, and optimize the health and abilities of all people. As educators of advanced practice nurses, nurse scholars, nurse leaders, and nurse faculty, we accept the responsibility to foster and graduate highly educated, culturally sensitive health care professionals who mirror the diverse populations they serve.

[More on diversity at VUSN](#)

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The VUSN Diversity and Inclusion Committee is seeking student input via focus groups to provide us with valuable feedback.

The purpose of these groups is primarily to:

Invite all current students to comment on their experiences with VUSN outreach/admissions and review all VUSN web pages with an eye toward inclusivity.

Interested?

Contact Josh Lehrer [joshua.d.lehrer@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:joshua.d.lehrer@vanderbilt.edu) or

Professor Geri Reeves [geri.reeves@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:geri.reeves@vanderbilt.edu)
Vanderbilt Chancellor’s Lecture Series:
Kennedy, Zeppos to discuss mental health and addiction advocacy

Vanderbilt Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos will host a discussion with former U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy on Tuesday, March 13. “A Common Struggle: Making Mental Health Essential Health” will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Langford Auditorium on the Vanderbilt University campus. A question-and-answer session will follow the discussion. Questions may be submitted in advance via Twitter using the hashtag #VUCLS or at a table in the Langford Auditorium lobby on March 13 prior to the event.

The event is part of the ongoing Chancellor’s Lecture Series for 2017-18 and is being held in conjunction with Vanderbilt’s GO THERE campaign, a campuswide initiative to foster a culture of openness, honest reflection and brave dialogue about mental health and wellbeing to enhance and support holistic health among all Vanderbilt faculty, staff and students.

Admission to the lecture is free, and seating in Langford Auditorium will be available on a first-come, first-seated basis. Tickets will not be issued for this event.

Kennedy, the youngest child of longtime Massachusetts Sen. Ted Kennedy, served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Rhode Island’s First Congressional District from 1995 to 2011. In May 2006, he publicly disclosed the full extent of his struggle with bipolar disorder, his addiction to prescription painkillers, and his plan to seek immediate treatment.

Since then Kennedy has been a leading advocate for mental health and substance abuse care, research and policy both in and out of Congress. He served as a lead sponsor of the landmark Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, which guarantees equal access to mental health and addiction services for all Americans by requiring insurance companies to treat illnesses of the brain, such as depression and addiction, the same way they treat illnesses of the body, like diabetes and cancer.

After stepping away from Congress in 2011, Kennedy founded The Kennedy Forum, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to lead a national dialogue on transforming mental health and addiction care delivery by uniting mental health advocates, business leaders and government agencies around a common set of principles, including full implementation of the federal parity law. As co-founder of One Mind, he helped spark a global revolution in how scientists collaborate to study, diagnose and treat brain diseases.

In 2015, Kennedy co-authored the New York Times bestseller A Common Struggle: A Personal Journey Through the Past and Future of Mental Illness and Addiction. The book details his personal struggles as well as his bold plan for the future of mental health care in America. In spring 2017, he was appointed to serve on the President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis. Chaired by former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, the commission studied ways to combat and treat the scourge of drug abuse and addiction in the United States, ultimately delivering a final report of recommendations to President Donald Trump.

Parking for the March 13 Chancellor’s Lecture will be available in the 25th Avenue Garage, located near the intersection of 25th and Highland avenues. Please use the Highland Avenue entrance.
For more information about the series, visit the Chancellor’s Lecture Series website, email cls@vanderbilt.edu, or follow @Nick_Zeppos on Twitter.

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Inclusion Initiatives & Cultural Competence

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LET YOUR ANCHOR DOWN Faculty Dinner Series

Join IICC to “Let Your Anchor Down” for a night of food, fellowship, and faculty! Each month in the Student Center for Social Justice & Identity (Sarratt 335) we will host a dinner discussion on a series of topics with Vanderbilt’s own faculty and staff! RSVP today, space is limited!

For more information and the link to register, check our website: www.vanderbilt.edu/iicc/programs-events

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Upcoming dates

**March 14th - Ableism Through the Years**
Join us as we host Dr. Forber-Pratt, a Paralympic ambassador and Assistant Professor from the Peabody College of Education. RSVP: [https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/event/1671784](https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/event/1671784)

**April 11th - Dismantling Rape Culture**
Join us as we host Cara Tuttle-Bell, Director of Project Safe Center and Lecturer for Women’s and Gender Studies as we explore the topic of “Dismantling Rape Culture” in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. RSVP: [https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/event/1670392](https://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/event/1670392)

All Let Your Anchor Down Dinners take place in Sarratt 325/327 and begin at 6:00pm
End Of The Month Kickbacks
The End of the Month Kickback is an opportunity for members of the Vanderbilt community to mentally reset and recharge. Each month, IICC will seek to foster an environment that engages in healthy wellness and well-being initiatives and practices that are culturally relevant to the needs of multicultural, international, and underrepresented populations.

- Participants will build supportive relationships with peers and IICC staff
- Participants will identify the MCL as a place of community, comfort, and civility
- Participants will leave feeling refreshed and rejuvenated as a result of their engagement

March 30th  Transgender Day of Visibility with KCPC
April 24th  All End of the Month Kickbacks

Sessions take place in the Multicultural Lounge (Sarratt 335) and begin at 11:30am.

Student of Color Affinity Group

Being a person of color in a predominately white environment is a complex and often stressful experience. The Student of Color (SoC) affinity group serves as a way to openly engage in dialogues around what it means to be a student of color on this campus. This group serves to increase the awareness of students to the fact that there are other individuals who share similar multicultural lived experiences. The SoC ultimately serves as a resource for students of color to come together weekly in order to enhance their success at VU.

Multicultural Lounge Schedule:
March 26th, 12pm-1pm
Danielle Allen, will discuss her latest book Cuz: The Life and Times of Michael A., a family memoir regarding the life and tragic death of her cousin.
Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 4:10 p.m.
Community Room, Jean & Alexander Heard Libraries

Danielle Allen, James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard University, and Director of Harvard’s Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, is a political theorist who has published broadly in democratic theory, political sociology, and the history of political thought. Widely known for her work on justice and citizenship in both ancient Athens and modern America, Allen is the author of The World of Prometheus: The Politics of Punishing in Democratic Athens (2000), Talking to Strangers: Anxieties of Citizenship since Brown vs. the Board of Education (2004), Why Plato Wrote (2010), Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality (2014), Education and Equality (2016), and Cuz: The Life and Times of Michael A. (2017). She is the co-editor of the award-winning Education, Justice, and Democracy (2013, with Rob Reich) and From Voice to Influence: Understanding Citizenship in the Digital Age (2015, with Jennifer Light). She is a Chair of the Mellon Foundation Board, past Chair of the Pulitzer Prize Board, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

Allen is also the principal investigator for the Democratic Knowledge Project, a distributed research and action lab at Harvard University. The Democratic Knowledge Project seeks to identify, strengthen, and disseminate the bodies of knowledge, skills, and capacities that democratic citizens need in order to succeed at operating their democracy. The lab currently has three projects underway: the Declaration Resources Project, the Humanities and Liberal Arts Assessment Project (HULA), and the Youth and Participatory Politics Action and Reflection Frame.

The Harry C. Howard Jr. Lecture Series was established in 1994 through the endowment of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Nash, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. George D. Renfro, all of Asheville, North Carolina. The lecture honors Harry C. Howard, Jr. (B.A., 1951).

More Warren Center Seminars Here
Join Us on March 3 for the Inaugural Southern LGBTQ Health Symposium

The Vanderbilt Program for LGBTI Health is very excited to host the first-ever Southern LGBTQ Health Symposium on Saturday, March 3 in Light Hall at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. We're seeking to engage providers and students throughout the region on a variety of topics to better serve sexual and gender minority patients.

Registration is now live! Please visit this link to sign up today! If you have any questions, please contact Del Ray Zimmerman, Manager of the Vanderbilt Program for LGBTI Health, at del.r.zimmerman@vanderbilt.edu.

We'd like to extend special thanks to the HIV Clinical Trials Program, the Vanderbilt LGBT Policy Lab, and the VUMC Office for Diversity for signing on as sponsors for this special event. Qualified individuals in your networks.

Register for Vanderbilt HPV Symposium

LGBT patients are at higher risk for contracting the human papillomavirus (HPV), which can cause certain types of cancers.

To learn more about prevention and treatment, please consider attending the Vanderbilt Symposium on HPV Infections and Associated Cancers, to be held on Friday, March 2, at the Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center.

Keynote Speakers:

Lisa Mirabello, Ph.D., M.S.  
National Cancer Institute, NIH  
HPV Genomic Insights into Cervical Carcinogenesis and HPV Natural History

Aimée R. Kreimer, Ph.D.  
National Cancer Institute  
Is It Possible to Further Reduce the Number of Doses Needed for HPV Vaccines?

Richard B.S. Roden, Ph.D.  
Johns Hopkins University  
What is Next in Therapeutic HPV Vaccines?
Keynote speakers include Lisa Mirabello, Ph.D., M.S., National Center Institute; Aimee Kreimer, Ph.D., National Center Institute; and Richard B.S. Roden, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University.

The event is free to attend. Register now at www.hpvsymposium.com.

The Department of Radiology and the Vanderbilt Program for LGBTI Health present a Special Lecture:

**Anti-LGBT Religious Freedom Laws & Academic Medicine on March 28**

The topic, "Anti-LGBT Religious Freedom Laws: How Can Academic Medicine Respond" will be led by a panel of experts, including Vanderbilt's Jesse Ehrenfeld, M.D., MPH; Brown University Professor Martha Mainiero, M.D., FACR; and University of California San Diego Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity Alexander Norbash, M.D., M.S., FACR.

For more information, visit www.vumc.org/radiology/grand-rounds.

Volunteer Your Time and Skills for New Transgender Youth

**Art Therapy Program**

Justin Hoyt, a student at the Vanderbilt School of Nursing, is piloting a new art therapy program for transgender, non-binary, and genderqueer youth and needs your help!

He is looking for VUMC staff members who are also artists (visual or performance) to volunteer to lead youth through creating art pieces that express what it's like to be them. Projects will take place on the VUMC campus and will allow young patients the opportunity to express difficult and personal content during visits at the medical center.
For more information and to volunteer your time, email Justin at justin.e.hoyt@vanderbilt.edu.

Share Your LGBT Employment Stories for Archival Project

Nashville storyteller Kristen Chapman Gibbons, in partnership with Tennessee Equality Project, is bringing her mobile recording tent to record your stories.

Until March 15, Gibbons is hosting several community engagement events where she will be recording around the theme: “Working It Out: Stories of the LGBTQ Community At Work.” The next event will take place at 6:30 p.m. this Friday, Feb. 23, at Flatrock Coffee. Click here for more information.

Participants must reside in Davidson County, be a part of the LGBTQ+ community, and have a true story about employment. Experiences can be about a challenge at work, starting your own business, a funny experience, or a surprising story.

After recording interviews, nine people will be selected to share their stories at a showcase on March 30th. All audio will be archived by Tennessee Equality Project and some of it will be used in Gibbons’ True Stories Let Loose podcast.

If you are unable to make the community engagement events, you can email your text to truestoriesletloose@gmail.com or schedule an individual interview.

LGBTQI Events calendar here
The Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center is seeking nominations for its annual awards that recognize and honor Vanderbilt community members for their contributions to the advancement of university women.

Winners will be recognized at the annual Cuninggim Lecture on March 21.
The Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center Leadership Award is presented annually to an undergraduate or graduate student who demonstrates leadership in activities that contribute to the achievements, interests and goals of women or that promote gender equity.

The Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center’s Mentoring Award (Vanderbilt)

The Mentoring Award is presented annually to an individual of the Vanderbilt community who has helped to support women on campus through professional and intellectual development.

The Mary Jane Werthan Award is presented annually to an individual who has contributed significantly to the advancement of women at Vanderbilt University. The award honors three qualities characteristic of its first recipient, for whom it is named: vision, persistence and extraordinary skill in interpersonal and institutional relations.

The award recognizes the debt that women at Vanderbilt University owe to those individuals who have had the vision to see how things ought to be, the courage to persist in their hopes over time, and the skills necessary to bring new attitudes and practices into being. The Mary Jane Werthan Award offers tribute to the humor, intelligence and graceful determination of those individuals whose work has enhanced our entire community.

To nominate an individual, please fill out this form.

The Work–Life Workshops for faculty, staff, and graduate students is a lecture-based lunch program that covers a blend of self-care and professional development topics such as navigating organizational politics, mindfulness and stress management, salary negotiation strategies, and more.

WLW Schedule: Spring 2018

Thursday, March 1 - The Meaning of Money

Tuesday, April 3 - Managing Conflict with Assertiveness

This program coordinated by the Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center and sponsored by the Graduate School and the Vice Provost for Academic and Strategic Affairs offers Ph.D. students a chance to reflect on the ways that gender affects their experience as they begin their professional journey in the academy.
All programs begin at noon and are held in Buttrick 123
Lunch is provided.

**Wednesday, March 28 - Wellness in the Academy: Finding a Healthy Balance While in Grad School**

Questions? Please contact Rory Dicker at rory.dicker@vanderbilt.edu

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**Center for Latin American Studies**

Vanderbilt’s [Center for Latin American Studies](#) will host the 65th annual Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies conference at Vanderbilt from March 8 to March 11.

“SECOLAS is delighted to have its 65th annual meeting hosted by the Center for Latin American Studies at Vanderbilt University,” said Secretary-Treasurer Steven Hyland. “With nearly 200 people on the program, we are thrilled by the opportunity for intellectual exchange and social interaction, and Vanderbilt’s team at CLAS have been vital in the build up to what we are convinced will be a successful and productive encounter.”

SECOLAS is a nonpolitical and nonprofit association of individuals interested in Latin America, with the objectives of promoting interest in Latin America, scholarly research pertaining to Latin America in all fields, and the increase of friendly contacts among the peoples of the Americas. “SECOLAS is a premier venue for research on Latin America,” said Center of Latin American Studies Director and Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Anthropology [Ted Fischer](#). “We are proud to host this organization with such an illustrious history here on campus, connecting what we do at Vanderbilt to wider networks.”

Several Vanderbilt faculty and students will present papers and serve on panels at the conference. Departments represented will include History, Spanish and Portuguese, Political Science, Latin American Studies, and Anthropology.

“SECOLAS and Vanderbilt have a long history together. Many of its faculty have served in leadership positions and on prize committees,” Hyland said. “We have always been proud of providing a forum for graduate students too, many of whom consistently are from Vanderbilt.” Other presenters will come from Metro Nashville Public Schools as well as higher education institutions across the United States and abroad. Countries represented include Germany, Argentina, Jerusalem, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Colombia and Mexico.

Support for the conference also was provided by the Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs and the Vanderbilt College of Arts and Science Dean’s Office.
“The Shop” is a unique opportunity for students of color to engage in dialogical exchange of wisdom with pastors, activists, professors, and elders from the greater Nashville community concerning the trending cultural topics that impact the lives of people of color. These conversations will focus on the intersections of Black spirituality, faith, and activism and will give students of color the opportunity to explore faith from different perspectives. In addition, “the Shop” will offer cultural meals from local restaurants owned by persons of color.

Each gathering at “the Shop” features a guest who is able to engage from a pre-selected topic in conjunction with a relevant, trending article from the news and/or social media. Topics will include (but are not limited to): intersections of gender, race, sexuality, spirituality, mental health, faith, activism, the role of the Black Church, and interfaith dialogue. These conversations will help guests and students engage in the constructive work of developing self-awareness and create meaningful dialogue as to how we live moral, ethical, and spiritual lives in the midst of various lived experiences as people of color.

March 21, 12:00pm, OUCRL Fireside Lounge
Dr. Herbert Marbury
Black Masculinity & Spirituality

April 18, 12:00pm, OUCRL Fireside Lounge
Judge Rachel Bell
Politics & Theology
Bridge Building

Speakers engage with students at the dinner table over the question
“How can we effectively build relationships that will influence the affairs of the
world in ways that are just, inclusive, and compassionate?”

March 27, 5:30pm, OUCRL
Dr. A.J. Levine, University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies, Vanderbilt Divinity School

Food For Thought

Speakers engage with students at the dinner table over the question
“How did you decide to do what you do?”

March 13, 5:30pm, OUCRL
Rabbi Shlomo Rothstein, Campus Chabad Chaplain, Vanderbilt

April 3, 5:30pm, OUCRL
Dr. Issam Eido, Senior Lecturer, Vanderbilt Department of Religious Studies

Vanderbilt University Medical Center has launched the Flexner Discovery Lecture Series
featuring the world’s most eminent scientists, who will speak on the highest-impact research and
policy issues in science and medicine today. See Upcoming Lectures
All lectures start at 4PM in 208 Light Hall.

Spring Workshop Schedule

Inclusive Excellence 101: Unconscious Bias — A New Look at an Old Dynamic!
Wed. April 4, 2018, 9 — 11 a.m.
Wed. May 16, 2018, 9 — 11 a.m.

Click here to register

Inclusive Excellence 401: Mindful Communication across Diverse Groups
Wed., March 14, 2018, 1 — 3 p.m.

Click here to register

Signature Trainings

Through 2-hour interactive sessions, the IICC Signature Trainings take participants on a journey of self-exploration, reflection, and dialogue focused on diversity and inclusion. Participants cultivate a deeper understanding of challenges such as the complex nature of identity, intercultural communication, and social justice allyship. Participants commit to sustained growth and learning in order to continue building communities of compassion and connectedness at Vanderbilt and beyond.

Additionally, IICC Customized Trainings are available to student organizations, campus partners, and other members of the Vanderbilt community by request. IICC staff members work with requestors to develop a training session mutually designed to meet the needs of ongoing diversity and inclusion efforts at Vanderbilt. Click here to submit a custom training request form.

Training 2.0: Exploring Self in Society
This session dives deeper into the influences and implications of social identity group membership on an individual and societal level. Participants examine their own identities in relation to systems of power and privilege as well as the present-day impact of cultural and social phenomena in the context of identity. Through critical analysis, participants deepen their understanding of these systems and their individual role in working towards a more diverse and equitable society.
Key concepts: power and privilege, socialization, -isms

March 22, 2018 | Sarratt 325/327 | 3:00pm-5:00pm
Register here for Training 2.0

Training 3.0: Exploring Inclusive Leadership
This session leads participants through a critical analysis of existing problems of inequity and exclusion related to differences of identity. Participants reflect on their current leadership practices and engage in dialogue about how to proactively leverage their power and privilege to create a culture of universal belonging. The session energizes participants to work towards more holistic allyship and to confront behaviors that contradict Vanderbilt’s devotion to a diverse and welcoming learning environment for all.

Key concepts: inclusion, allyship, community

March 13, 2018 | Sarratt 325/327 | 3:00pm-5:00pm
Register here for Training 3.0

Specialty Training: Navigating Difficult Conversations
This session promotes awareness of self, group dynamics, and broader societal contexts when engaging in difficult conversations about issues related to diversity and inclusion. Participants share their concerns and challenges in having these conversations, strengthen their intercultural and interpersonal communication skills, and solidify their commitment to embracing difference in all forms. As a result, participants discover opportunities for additional learning and continued self-education towards increased cultural competency.

Key concepts: self-awareness, intent and impact, connecting across difference

March 28, 2018 | Sarratt 325/327 | 10:00am-12:00pm
Register here for the Specialty Training. Questions? Please contact Kristen Lemaster
Calendar of Observances February 2018

March Full Month NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH Honors women as significant agents of historical change.

March 1 PURIM • Jewish The “Feast of Lots” marks the salvation of the Jews of ancient Persia from extermination.

March 2– March 20 NINETEEN-DAY FAST • Bahá'í Baha'is between 15 and 70 years of age do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset and set aside time for prayer and meditation.

March 2 HOLLA MOHALLA • Sikh An annual event which is a martial arts parade historically coinciding with Holi, the Hindu festival of colors.

March 2 HOLI • Hindu A spring festival in India and Nepal dedicated to the god of pleasure, also known as the festival of colours or the festival of sharing love.

March 8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY Celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women worldwide.

March 17 ST. PATRICK’S DAY • Christian Feast day of the patron saint of Ireland. In the U.S., a secular version is celebrated by people of all faiths through appreciation of all things Irish.

March 20 VERNAL EQUINOX • The date when night and day are nearly the same length. It marks the first day of the season of spring.

March 20 NOWRÚZ • Zoroastrian A traditional ancient Iranian festival celebrating the first day of Spring and the Iranian New Year. Also celebrated as New Year’s Day in Baha’i tradition (Naw-Ruz).

March 25 PALM SUNDAY • Christian Observed the Sunday before Easter/Pascha to commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

March 25 RAMA NAVAMI • Hindu Celebrates the birthday of Rama, king of ancient India, hero of the epic Ramayana, and seventh incarnation of Vishnu.

March 28 KHORDAD SAL • Zoroastrian celebration of the birth of Zoroaster, the founder of the Zoroastrianism religion.

March 29 HOLY THURSDAY • Christian Also known as Maundy Thursday, it is celebrated on the Thursday before Easter commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus and the Apostles were together for the last time before the Crucifixion.

March 30 GOOD FRIDAY • Christian Known as Holy Friday in Eastern Christianity, it commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Easter/Pascha.

March 31 – April 7 PASSOVER/PESACH • Jewish The eight-day “Feast of Unleavened Bread” celebrates Israel’s deliverance from Egyptian bondage.

March 31 MAGHA PUJA • Buddhist Also known as Sangha Day, it commemorates the spontaneous assembly of 1,250 disciples, completely enlightened monks, in the historical Buddha's presence.
March 31 CESAR CHAVEZ DAY • Honors Mexican American farm worker, labor leader and activist Cesar Chavez (1927–1993) who was a nationally respected voice for social justice.
National Coalition of 100 Black Women will host their 20th Anniversary – Sister for Sister Conference

Keynote Women of Color Luncheon Speaker - Michele Thornton Ghee, Senior Vice President of BET, Centric Television Sales and Author - Stratechic 2.0: Her Plan, Her Power, Her Purpose

The event will be held on the campus of Belmont University (Frist Lecture Hall/Janet Ayers Academic Center/4th Floor)

**Friday/March 23, 2018 (5:00-7:00pm)** - African American Women on Boards Panel Discussion (FREE)

**Saturday/March 24, 2018 (8:00am-12:00pm)** - Sister for Sister Conference Workshops & Vendors ($65/person)

[Purchase tickets here](#)
Southern LGBTQ Health Symposium
March 3, 2018
Light Hall 2215 Garland Avenue
The Vanderbilt Program for LGBTI Health is hosting the first Southern LGBT Health Symposium. We will engage providers and students throughout the region on a variety of topics to better serve sexual and gender minority patients.

2018 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusive Democracy: The Inconvenient Truths
March 22, 2018 to March 24, 2018
The Westin Gaslamp
San Diego, CA 92101

20th Global Nursing Education Conference
March 21-23, 2018
New York, NY

Diversity Abroad Annual Conference
April 7-10, 2018
Miami, FL

2nd Advanced Nursing Science & Practice
April 20-21, 2018
Las Vegas, Nevada

2018 LGBT Health Workforce Conference
May 4-5, 2018
New York, NY

Conference on Diversity and Equity (CDE)
June 24-27, 2018
Marquette University - Milwaukee, WI

National Black Nurses Association
July 31- August 5, 2018
St. Louis, Missouri

Transcultural Approaches to Advance Health Care
October 17-20, 2018
San Antonio, TX