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To: Christian Sacdalan
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January 2022 Edition

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the first edition of the 2022 *DE&I Digest*! For our new AMGA colleagues, *DE&I Digest* is a monthly newsletter that celebrates cultural observances and shares resources on timely diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I)-related topics. Now in our second year, the DE&I Committee is looking forward to bringing new and relevant topics to you throughout 2022. If you have resources to share with your peers, we encourage you to send them to the committee at DEICommittee@amga.org. Enjoy!

On January 17, we observed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (MLK Day) and reflected on the work that still needs to be done for racial equality. MLK Day is observed every year on the third Monday in January and is meant to be more than just a holiday or a day off. It is a time to reflect and take action on civil rights issues across the globe.



MLK Day was a concept initially proposed by labor unions. After his death, U.S. Representative John Conyers and U.S. Senator Edward Brooke introduced a bill in Congress to make his birthday a national holiday. There was opposition to make it a paid federal holiday because it would be too expensive and because he was a private

citizen. However, The King Center garnered support from the corporate community and public, as well as hosted the Rally for Peace Press Conference in 1981. Stevie Wonder's "Happy Birthday" single helped popularize the campaign even further. According to [National Today](#), 6 million signatures were collected on a petition for Congress to pass the law, and it is considered the largest petition in favor of an issue in U.S. history. President Reagan signed a bill to create a federal holiday honoring Dr. King in 1983. The holiday honoring the civil rights leader was first observed on his actual birthday, January 20, 1986.

As we think about what the true meaning of the words *equality* and *equity* and their impact on the healthcare system, we encourage everyone to reflect on a quote from Dr. King, which is still very relevant today.

"It's all right to tell a man to lift himself by his own bootstraps, but it is cruel jest to say to a bootless man that he ought to lift himself by his own bootstraps."

-- Martin Luther King Jr.

Resources of the Month

DE&I Committee January Picks:

- [Resources](#): The Best of Our Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Resources
- [Website](#): The King Center
- [Website](#): Teaching King Beyond "I Have a Dream"
- [Website](#): United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- [Website](#): United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
- [Website](#): National Archives: Holocaust Remembrance Day

Do you have a resource you want to see in the next edition of *DE&I Digest*? Next month, we will be recognizing **Black History Month**! Send resources to DEICommittee@amga.org for review by the DE&I Committee. Please ensure

Raise Your Cultural IQ!

Did You Know?

Every year on January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day commemorates the victims of the Holocaust, which resulted in the murder of one third of the Jewish people, along with countless members of other minorities by [Nazi Germany](#) between 1933 and 1945.

The observance of this day reaffirms our commitment to counter antisemitism, racism, and other forms of intolerance that may lead to violence against a particular group. The day marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi Concentration and

resources submitted are from reputable sources.

Extermination Camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau by Soviet troops in 1945

Something to Celebrate!

You have a few more days to celebrate some *different* observances this month. Just a little fun to close out the month of January. Enjoy!

January 26

- National Green Juice Day
- National Peanut Brittle Day
- National Spouses Day
Library Shelfie Day – *Fourth Wednesday in January*

January 27

- National Chocolate Cake Day

January 28

- National Gift of the Ladybug Day*
 - National Blueberry Pancake Day
 - Data Privacy Day
 - National Have Fun at Work Day
 - National Kazoo Day
 - National Big Wig Day – Last Friday in January
- Day* – Proclamation

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? We'd love to hear from you! Email the DE&I Committee at DEICommittee@amga.org. To see previous editions of the *DE&I Digest*, click [here](#).

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