

# YFA DIVERSITY NEWS

“There is no greater good one can do than to love him/herself and love thy brother and sister, and build together for the good of their community and people” -Malcolm X

## MAY DIVERSITY CALENDAR

Jewish American Heritage Month & Mental Health Awareness Month & Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

5/5 Cinco de Mayo

5/9 Night of Decree

5/16-5/17 Shavo'ut

5/17 Anniversary of the School Desegregation Ruling & International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia

5/21 Malcolm X Day & World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development

5/25 African Liberation Day

5/27-5/31 Orlando Carnival

5/30 World MS Day

## Orlando Carnival



The Orlando Carnival takes place every year over Memorial Day Weekend in Orlando, Florida. This year it will take place May 27-May 31. The Orlando Carnival has been a tradition for the past 32 years and celebrates and promotes a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Caribbean Culture. The Caribbean Culture is represented at the carnival with displays of dance, music, masquerades, costumes, and cuisine. Orlando Carnival is a family friendly event and hosts over 20,000 people. Many different Caribbean counties and islands are represented at the carnival including Trinidad, Tobago, Guyana, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Barbados, Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, Belize, Cuba, St. Kitts, Bahamas, and Grenada. There is a parade where thousands of participants dress in costume and compete while dancing. Anyone is able to participant in Orlando Carnival. For more information, go to: [www.carnivaland.net/orlando-carnival](http://www.carnivaland.net/orlando-carnival)

## Malcolm X Day:

Malcolm X is celebrated every year in May, on either the 19<sup>th</sup> (his birthday) or the third Friday of the month. This year, Malcolm X Day is on Friday, May 21, 2021. A prominent leader during the civil rights movement, Malcolm X initially joined the Nation of Islam in the mid-1940. Born Malcolm Little, he changed his name to Malcolm X to commemorate his new religion and beliefs and to symbolize his stolen African identity. In the early 1950's, Malcolm X became a minister of the Nation of Islam in Harlem, NY, where he advocated self-defense and the liberation of African Americans "by any means necessary". As he began to publicly speak and preach about the racial inequalities and separation in America, he started to develop a more outspoken philosophy than that of Elijah Muhammad (leader of the Nation of Islam) and slowly separated from those teachings, mostly because he did not feel they sufficiently supported the civil rights movement. He formally left the organization in 1964. Malcolm X was assassinated at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem on February 21, 1965. Malcolm X was a passionate and eloquent public speaker and leader and was admired by the African American community around the county. He founded the Organization of Afro-American Unity, which encouraged African Americans to look at and embrace their African heritage and to move from civil rights to human rights.

**Mental Health  
Awareness Month**



**Wear Green  
May 4 & 5**

