

Miami Dade College InterAmerican Campus Library

Monthly Celebrations

Here is a list of other important celebrations for the Month of January with a brief annotation.

Celebration of Life Month	Jan. 1 – 31. The month of January, being the first month of the year, signifies the new year, a new beginning, a new life, a new happiness in many lives each year. Each community has a new hope to begin a new page in their lives. Remember always to value the gifts of life for all Americans pursuing life, liberty, happiness and justice for all citizens.
International Creativity Month	Jan. 1 – 31. A month to remind individual and organizations around the globe to capitalize on the power of creativity. Unleashing creativity is vital for personal and business success in this age of accelerating change. The first month of the year provides an opportunity to take a fresh approach to problem solving and renew confidence in our creative capabilities. Web: www.creativelyspeaking.com
International Wealth Mentality Month	Jan. 1 – 31. The start of the New Year provides a great opportunity to examine your financial position and, more importantly, your beliefs and behavior regarding your financial goals. The International Center for Strategic Planning hosts this month-long effort each year to draw attention on the importance of having a wealth mentality (thoughts that encourage and support wealth building) and getting your personal finances in order. Web: www.wealthmentality.com
National Cancer Prevention Month	Jan. 1 – 31. NCPM was initiated by the Institute of Cancer Prevention (IFCP) as a public education initiative to remind Americans that 70% of all cancer deaths are preventable, and that they can modify their daily lifestyles to help prevent the disease. Web: http://www.cancer.org/docroot/home/index.asp
National Glaucoma Awareness Month	Jan. 1 – 31. More than 2 million Americans age 40 and older suffer from glaucoma. Nearly half do not know they have the disease – it causes no early symptoms. Prevent Blindness America will provide valuable information about this “sneak thief of sight.” Organizations are encouraged to educate the community through screenings, forums and programs. Web: www.preventblindness.org
National Clean Up Your Computer Month	Jan 1 – 31. Dedicated to the education of computer users with simple tips and methods to increase the efficiency of their systems.
National Poverty in America Awareness Month	Jan. 1 – 31. To promote public awareness of the continuing existence of poverty and social injustices in America. Individuals are encouraged to support efforts to eradicate poverty by increasing their understanding of the causes and practical solutions and by active participation and support for antipoverty programs. Web: www.povertyusa.org

Cervical Cancer Screening Month	Jan. 1-31. During January, the National Cervical Cancer Public Education campaign gives women and their doctors information about what causes cervical cancer and the best ways to prevent or detect it. Women are encouraged to get screened for cervical cancer and pledge their commitment to preventing the disease by visiting the campaign's website at www.cervicalcancercampaign.org Web: www.thegcf.org
Diet Resolution Week	Jan. 1-7. This week emphasizes the importance of watching your weight by focusing on the type –not the amount-of food you put on your plate. Resolve to consume minimally processed, less-refined carbohydrate foods. Slim down permanently with whole grains, legumes, fresh fruit and vegetables. Eat more but weight less for life. Delete meat and other animal foods to make miniscule meals and calorie counting obsolete. Start the year off right by eating light with every bite! For info: Vegetarian Awareness Network, Communications center, PO Box 321, Knoxville, TN 37901-0321. Phone: (877) VEG-DIET or (800) 280-8343.
Ellis Island Opened: Anniversary	Jan 1, 1892. Ellis Island was opened on New Year's Day in 1892. Over the years more than 20 million were processed through the stations. The island was used as a point of deportation as well: in 1932 alone, 20,000 people were deported from Ellis Island. When the US entered WWII in 1954, Ellis Island became a coast guard station. It closed Nov. 12, 1954, and was declared a national park in 1956. After years of disuse it was restored and in 1990 it was reopened as a museum. Web: http://www.nps.gov/elis/
Emancipation Proclamation takes effect: Anniversary	Jan 1, 1863. Abraham Lincoln, by executive proclamation of Sept 22, 1862, declared that on this date "...all persons held as slaves within any state or designated part of a state, the people whereof shall be then, henceforward, and forever free..." Slaves in the four slave states that had not seceded from the Union (Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri) were not freed until the passage of the 13 th Amendment in 1865.
Euro Introduced	Jan 1, 1999. The euro, the common currency of members of the European Union, was introduced for use by financial institutions. The value of the currencies from the 11 nations (Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain) was locked in at a permanent conversion rate to the euro. Greece joined the eurozone the following year. On Jan 1, 2002, euro bills and coins began circulating; other currencies were phased out as of Feb 28, 2002.
Forster, E.M.: Birth Anniversary	Jan 1, 1911. Edward Morgan Foster, English author born at London, England is remember for his six novels: Where Angels Fear to Tread (1905), The Longest Journey (1907), A room with a View (1908), Howard's End (1910), A Passage to India (1924) and the posthumously published Maurice (1971). He also achieved eminence for his short stories and essays, and he collaborated on the libretto for an opera, Benjamin Britten's Billy Bud (1951). Foster died at Coventry, England June 7, 1970. Web: http://www.online-literature.com/forster/
Haiti: Independence Day	Jan 1. A national holiday commemorating the proclamation of independence in 1804. Haiti, occupying the western third of the island Hispaniola (second larges of the West Indies), was a Spanish colony from

the time of its discovery by Columbus in 1492 until 1697, then a French colony until the proclamation of independence in 1804.

Asimov, Isaac: Birth Anniversary

Jan 2, 1920. Although Isaac Asimov was one of the world's best known writers of science fiction, his almost 500 books dealt with subjects as diverse as the Bible, works for preschoolers, college textbooks, mysteries, chemistry, biology, limericks, Shakespeare, Gilbert and Sullivan and modern history. During his prolific career he helped to elevate science fiction from pulp magazines to a more intellectual level. Some of his books include the *Foundation Trilogy*, *The Robots of Dawn*, *Robots and Empire*, *Nemesis*, *Murder at A.B.A.* (in which he himself was a character), the *Gods Themselves and I*, *Robot*, in which he posited the famous *Three Laws of Robotics*. His *The Clock We Live On* is an accessible explanation of the origins of calendars. Asimov was born near Smolensk, Russia, and died at New York, NY, Apr 6, 1992.

Web: <http://www.kirjasto.sci.fi/asimov.htm>

For other celebrations during the month of January, please visit [University of California's Calendar](http://espanol.ucanr.org/Calendario/January_2006.htm) at http://espanol.ucanr.org/Calendario/January_2006.htm

Always remember that your InterAmerican Campus Library is the best place to obtain information on the month's celebrations. Ask a librarian for assistance.

*Most of the information in this page came from the *Chase's Calendar of Events, 2006*, also available in print in your library.