

PITT DENTAL MEDICINE  
OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

HOLIDAY CALENDAR

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 to October 15. This month corresponds with Mexican Independence Day, which is celebrated on September 16, and recognizes the revolution in 1810 that ended Spanish dictatorship.

**September 4-11:** Paryushana Parva, a Jain festival lasting about eight to ten days that is observed through meditation and fasting. Its main focus is spiritual upliftment, pursuit of salvation and a deeper understanding of the religion.

**September 6:** Labor Day in the United States. Labor Day honors the contribution that laborers have made to the country and is observed on the first Monday of September.

**September 6-8** (sundown to sundown): Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year celebration, marking the creation of the world.

**September 10:** Ganesh Chaturthi, a Hindu holiday lasting around 10 days, where the elephant-headed Hindu God is praised and given offerings.

**September 11:** Beheading of St. John the Baptist, a holy day observed by various Christian churches that follow liturgical traditions. The day commemorates the martyrdom by the beheading of St. John the Baptist on the orders of Herod Antipas through the vengeful request of his stepdaughter, Salome, and her mother.

**September 11:** Ethiopian New Year. Rastafarians celebrate the New Year on this date and believe that Ethiopia is their spiritual home.

**September 15-16** (sundown to sundown): Yom Kippur, the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, a day of atonement marked by fasting and ceremonial repentance.

**September 18:** International Equal Pay Day, celebrated for the first time in September 2020, represents the longstanding efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value. It further builds on the United Nations' commitment to human rights and against all forms of discrimination, including discrimination against women and girls.

**September 20-27:** Sukkot, a seven-day Jewish festival giving thanks for the fall harvest.

**September 22:** Ostara Mabon, a celebration of the vernal equinox commemorated by Pagans and Wiccans.

**September 24:** Native American Day, a Federal holiday observed annually on the fourth Friday in September in the state of California and Nevada and on the second Monday in October in South Dakota and Oklahoma, United States.

**September 27:** Elevation of the Life Giving Cross (Holy Cross), a day that commemorates the cross used in the Crucifixion of Jesus in some Christian denominations.

**September 27:** Meskel, religious holiday in the Ethiopian Orthodox and Eritrean Orthodox churches that commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by the Roman Empress, Helena, in the fourth century.

**September 27-29** (sundown to sundown): Shemini Atzeret, a Jewish holiday also known as The Eighth (Day) of Assembly, takes place the day after the Sukkot festival, where gratitude for the fall harvest is deeply internalized.

**September 28:** Teacher's Day in Taiwan. This day is used to honor teachers' contributions to their students and to society in general. People often express their gratitude to their teachers by paying them a visit or sending them a card. This date was chosen to commemorate the birth of Confucius, the model master educator in ancient China.

**September 28-29** (sundown to sundown): Simchat Torah, a Jewish holiday, marks the end of the weekly readings of the Torah. The holy book is read from chapter one of Genesis to Deuteronomy 34 and then back to chapter one again, in acknowledgement of the words of the Torah being a circle, a never-ending cycle.

**September 29:** Michaelmas, or the Feast of Michael and All Angels, is a minor Christian festival dedicated to Archangel Michael that is observed in some Western liturgical calendars.

UPCOMING JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (JEDI) EVENTS

**Thursday, September 9**  
Black Lives in Focus: The Exhibition Opening

What do we learn when Black life is in focus? Celebrate with us in launching this outdoor exhibition of artists' and writers' response to this question. The exhibition is part of a broader Pitt initiative, Black Lives in Focus, to lift up and explore the Black experience as essential to our community's future.

[Register here for the Black Lives in Focus: The Exhibition Opening](#)

**Tuesday, September 14**

Care of Severely Impaired African-American Newborns: Reflections from the Black Church Tradition  
Healthcare and Religion Lecture Series

[For more information, visit our website.](#)

**Friday, September 24**  
Genealogy and Family History Workshop (Dean's Public Health Grand Rounds)

University Library System Homecoming Open-House Celebration

[Register now!](#)

JEDI OUTREACH PROGRAM

Please email [odisj@pitt.edu](mailto:odisj@pitt.edu) if interested in volunteering for the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice's Outreach Program.

**Saturday, September 11**

[Pittsburgh Recovery Walk](#)

**PITTSBURGH RECOVERY WALK!**  
*Celebrating Roads to Recovery*

**YOU BELONG HERE**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2021 | 9 AM - 1 PM**  
**DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH**

RESOURCE FAIR  
KIDS ACTIVITIES  
PARADE  
REMARKABLE STORIES

  
**BENJI.**

DJ & DANCING  
GIVEAWAYS  
FOOD TRUCKS  
RECOVERY AWARDS

**1201 WATERFRONT PL.**  
**PITTSBURGH, PA 15222**

  
**PGHRECOVERYWALK.ORG**

**FREE EVENT**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**



PRESENTED BY  
**UPMC**  
UPMC Health Plan  
UPMC Community Care

REGISTER NOW  


**UPMC** LIFE CHANGING MEDICINE

**Community Celebration in the Park**

Where  
Mellon Park Shelter  
6602 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

When  
Saturday, September 25, 2021  
Noon to 4:00 PM

**RSVP HERE**



**UPMC** University of  
Pittsburgh

**Please wear a mask at this venue.**

**September 25, 2021**  
**12-4pm**

Please join us for the Community Celebration in Mellon Park Shelter (6602 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15206). The event is sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh Department of Medicine Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Office of the Provost Faculty Diversity and Development, Office of Health Sciences Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Department of Pediatrics Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

We encourage you, your family, and your friends to come and enjoy a day full of good food, fellowship, and fun. Our ultimate goal is to bring together BIPOC excellence from the University of Pittsburgh, UPMC, and the city of Pittsburgh as a whole.

Regardless of your vaccination status and event size, we will be abiding by CDC, University of Pittsburgh, and UPMC guidelines, and we ask that you please wear a mask at this event.

**RSVP** for the Community Celebration in the Park by the end of the day Saturday, **September 18, 2021**.

AWARDS



Congratulations to Vivian Villaseñor!

She was awarded the Hispanic Dental Association Scholarship. Vivian is a promising student who demonstrated commitment and dedication to improving the oral health of the Hispanic community and has shown leadership skills as well as great scholastic achievement.



Congratulations to Dr. Farnaz Hadaeghi!

She was selected for the Amin Arasteh Foundation Scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year. Dr. Hadaeghi is a second year pediatric dental resident who received the scholarship as a tribute to her outstanding academic accomplishments.