

Cultural Connections

NOVEMBER 2021

THIS ISSUE

*Who is included?
On the Big Screen
Transgender Awareness*



WHO IS INCLUDED?

Native American includes the indigenous people of the North American continent who occupied the land which is current-day United States. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the current total population of Native Americans 6.79 million, and 574 federally recognized Native American tribes in the U.S.

IN FRONT OF AND BEHIND THE CAMERA

Representation matters in the classroom and in the broader society! Watch stories and projects for and by the Native American community! May not be appropriate for all ages.

Dances with Wolves
Indian Horse
Smoke Signals
Gather
Basketball or Nothing

IN THE CLASSROOM

While the Thanksgiving holiday, or as some call Fall Harvest Celebration, is the highlight of November, the story of the Native American people is much more widespread than one feast in American History. National American Heritage Month celebrates the accomplishments of the original inhabitants, explorers, and settlers of the United States. Native Americans are often referred to as Indigenous Americans, Indian Americans, or Ingenious people. However, "Native American" became the preferred "politically correct" terminology in the 1970s. The month of November is reserved for the indigenous people of this land to share their lived experience, recognize the vast contributions of their culture or tribe, or advocate for policy change. Below are a few links and resources to help you explore this heritage month and begin discussions with your students. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Primary School

- [Native American for Kids | An insightful look into the history of the Native Americans](#)
- [History of Native Americans for Kids - Timelines - Animation](#)

Secondary School

- [Native American Heritage Month Lessons, Activities, and Totem Pole Craft](#)
- [What to Watch with PBS](#)
- [Native Knowledge 360](#)
- [Google Podcasts](#)

Other things to consider:

- Lean into learning with your students!
- Remember that even students who may identify within the encompassing heritages should not be seen as experts on the topic.
- There are many ways to celebrate Native American Heritage! There really is nothing too simple to add to the celebration!
- Native American Heritage Month is American History and relevant to all of us in a variety of ways!
- Have fun! This is a time for celebrating!!

TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK



Image credit: Getty Images/HECTOR RETAMAL

What is Transgender Awareness Week?

Transgender Awareness Week is the week of November 13-19th when transgender people and their allies take action to bring attention to the community by educating the public about who transgender people are, sharing stories and experiences, and advancing advocacy around the issues of prejudice, discrimination, and violence that affect the transgender community.

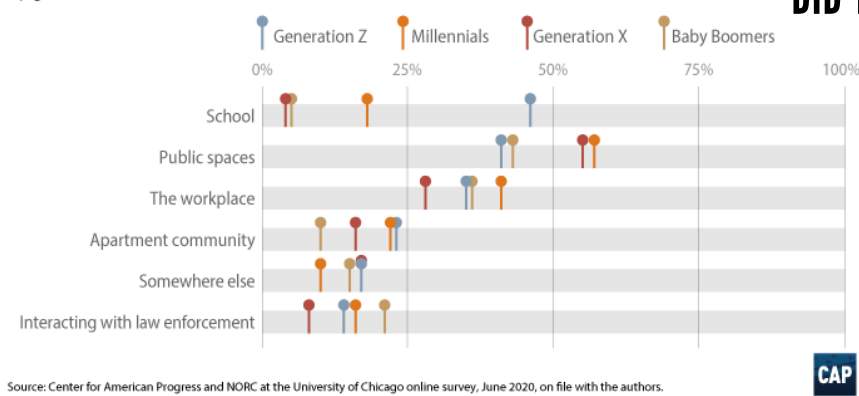
What is Transgender Day of Remembrance?

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) observed on November 20th, was founded by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor her memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence that year and began an important memorial that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

Discrimination most likely to occur at school for Gen Z, and in public places or at work for older generations

Share of LGBTQ Americans who reported experiencing discrimination in the previous year, by generation and location

DID YOU KNOW...?



Source: Center for American Progress and NORC at the University of Chicago online survey, June 2020, on file with the authors.



- Reported discrimination is higher than average among transgender and nonbinary people, those with a disability, and individuals of color, particularly Hispanic individuals.
- 30% of transgender respondents living in GA live in poverty.
- 50% of those who were out or perceived as transgender in K-12 were verbally harassed,
- 24% were physically attacked, and
- 13% were sexually assaulted in K-12

*Center for American Progress 2020

- 68% of Americans believe they have never personally met someone who is transgender.

*PEW Poll

*USTS GA State Report

Resources

[Family Guide](#)

[Understanding Gender Spectrum](#)

[Say What?!?](#)

[What Would Students Say](#)

[Books and Videos for Teaching](#)

[Classroom Best Practices Webinar](#)

[Transgender Youth Family Allies](#)

[Suggested Reading](#)

[Being There for Non-Binary Youth -Article](#)

[Discussion Topics for the Article: Being There for Non-Binary Youth](#)

USING THIS RESOURCE

The purpose of this Resource Guide is to help the educators of Atlanta International School begin and advance conversations and engagement around our cultural connections in our curriculum and beyond. This guide is the tip of the iceberg and should only be used to support the already amazing work in the classroom. This in no way is a sponsorship or endorsement of any linked or included entities. Please use at your own discretion.