

# Cultural News

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## International Nurses Day

International Nurses Day is a day which is celebrated annually all over the world on May 12th. The purpose of this holiday is to mark the contributions made to society by nurses all over the world and to honor them as they do a job that is often unappreciated. This day shouldn't be confused with the National Nurses Day which is a holiday celebrated on May 6th in the United States to honor the contributions of nurses to society.

### History of International Nurses Day

This holiday was originally proposed by an official with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare named Dorothy Sutherland. She was the one that suggested that a Nurses Day should be proclaimed in honor of all of the nurses in the United States to President Dwight D. Eisenhower. However, he didn't approve this suggestion. It wouldn't become a holiday until the International Nurses Day was created by the International Council of Nurses in 1965. During the 1970s, May 12th was chosen as the date on which it should be celebrated because that date is Florence Nightingale's birthday.

Florence Nightingale was born on May 12th, 1820 in Florence, Italy. She was a writer, statistician, social reformer and a founder of the nursing profession. She is best known for the attention she brought to the deplorable medical treatment of soldiers during the Crimean War.

### International Nurses Day Customs & Traditions

Every year, the International Council of Nurses comes up with a different theme for this holiday. For instance, in 1988, the theme was "Safe Motherhood," in 1998, the theme was "Partnership for Community Health," and in 2016, the theme was "Nurses: A Force for Change: Improving Health Systems' Resilience."

Different countries celebrate this holiday in different ways. For example, the Australian Nurse of the Year is usually announced at a ceremony in Australia. In China, sometimes nurses gather on this day to recite the Florence Nightingale Pledge. In the United Kingdom, a service for nurses is held at the Westminster Abbey in London. In the United States, this holiday is observed as a part of National Nurses Week, which begins on May 6th (National Nurses Day) and concludes on May 12th.

Individuals who want to participate in celebrating International Nurses Day can do so by remembering the contributions of their favorite nurse. This can be done by telling them thanks for the work they do, by sending them a card or by sending them flowers. People can also bring attention to this holiday by using the hashtag #internationalnursesday in all of their social media postings.



## MAY 2018 CALENDAR

ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER  
HERITAGE MONTH

HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH

NATIONAL FAMILY MONTH

- 1- Lailat al bara'ah (Islam)
- 2- Last day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
- 3- National Day of Prayers (Interfaith)
- 4- International Firefighters Day
- 6-12- Hurricane Preparedness Week (US)
- 8- World Red Cross Day
- 12- American Indian Day
- 13- Mother's Day (International)
- 13-19- National Women's Health Week (US)
- 20-21- Shavuot (Jewish)
- 22- US Colored Troops Day (US)
- 24- Brother's Day (US)
- 27- Trinity Sunday (Christian)
- 28- Memorial Day (US)
- 31- Corpus Christi (Catholic Christian)

*Celebrate*  
NATIONAL NURSES WEEK



## Why are Medical Interpreters Asking You Questions?

### Transition to EPIC

On February 5, 2018, Medical Interpreting Services started the process of transitioning requests for language assistance to a custom built module in EPIC. And even though the new request / dispatch module was based on the existing EPIC Transport module & interpreters were labeled as “transporters,” this solution presented a convenient and efficient alternative to the 20 year old MIS database. Instructions on requesting interpreters in EPIC are listed on the Medical Interpreting website: [http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/interpreting\\_services/](http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/interpreting_services/)

Along with the requests for language services, Medical Interpreting also worked on transitioning the charting function from the old MIS database into EPIC. Medical interpreters fill out records in the Customer Relations Manager module for each interpreted phone call, video or onsite encounter to document language services provided to UCDH patients. So, when the interpreter is asking for your name, phone number, and patient’s MRN, there’s a valid reason for his or her question. Medical Interpreting appreciates everyone’s patience & cooperation during the transition!

If you would like to learn more about Medical Interpreting Services, please visit our website:

[http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/interpreting\\_services/](http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/interpreting_services/)



### ANNOUNCEMENT:

## BILINGUAL PROVIDER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM LAUNCHED

*Medical Interpreting Services has launched a new program of Bilingual Provider Certification. The program’s goal is to offer oral assessments of language proficiency in the non-English languages to UCDH clinicians. This program is recommended by the Joint Commission as a measure to ensure effective communication between clinicians and patients in the patient’s preferred language.*

### Program Details:

- The program is offered to clinicians (Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Clinical Pharmacists);
- Once the certification is attained, clinicians can deliver care to patients in non-English languages during the course of their work;
- Certification **does not** allow clinicians to interpret for patients;
- The assessment is oral and is administered over the phone any time 24/7 within a 60 day timeframe;
- The program is limited to 24 languages (listed below);
- The cost of each assessment is \$140 and is recharged to the provider’s department/cost center;
- To request an assessment, please send an email to: [hs-languagetesting@ucdavis.edu](mailto:hs-languagetesting@ucdavis.edu)

### Assessments are available in the following languages:

Arabic	Mandarin	Hmong	Portuguese (Portugal)
Amharic	Farsi (Western)	Italian	Russian
Armenian (Eastern)	French	Japanese	Somali
Burmese	German	Korean	Spanish
Cambodian	Haitian	Polish	Tagalog
Cantonese	Hindi	Portuguese (Brazil)	Vietnamese

## Haitian Heritage Month



May is referred for Haitians all over the world as Haitian Heritage Month. And for the past years, Haitians in Boston, NY, and Florida have been celebrating proudly the month of May despite their country's difficult times.

Other than January where Haitians celebrate their

independence and ancestors days, May has great historical and cultural traditions that all Haitians are proud to make aware of and to pass on to future generations.

U.S. Senator John F. Kerry has recognized the Month of May as Haitian Heritage Month in a citation, while Massachusetts Governor Deval L. Patrick proclaimed May as Haitian Heritage Month in the State of Massachusetts. The Massachusetts State Senate recognizes annually the Haitian Month with citations presented by either Senator Gary Hart or Diane Wilkerson, and the State House of Representatives acknowledges the Haitian history and culture celebration with annual citations presented by State Representatives Marie St Fleur and Linda Dorcena Forry.

The Mayor of the City of Boston, Thomas M. Menino proclaims every year, the Haitian Heritage Month in the City of Boston and sponsors the parade and the Boston Flag Raising. The Boston City Council recognizes the month upon City council Charles Yancey's yearly request.

In Florida, the Haitian Heritage Month is recognized by Florida Congressman Kendrick B. Meek who had introduced and will reintroduce a resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives to establish the Month of May as Haitian-American Heritage Month in the United States. The month was also proclaimed and celebrated in Miami –Dade County by Mayor Alex Penelas. It was recognized by the School Board of Miami Dade County and supported by the School Board of Broward County. The Republican Party of Florida and the alliance Francaise de Miami organized several events in 2004 to acknowledge the Haitian Heritage Month.

Every year, many events to celebrate the Haitian Heritage Month take place in the New England area: the Annual Haitian American Unity Parade, which is held around May 18. The Parade usually leaves Mattapan Square in the early afternoon and continues onto dedicated avenues of the area. It features Haitian leaders, state and city officials, marching bands, delegations from schools, colleges and universities. Many youth groups, cultural, professional, and religious associations as well as, community, political and regional organizations and Haitian and American businesses also take part.

Another event is the Annual Haitian Flag Raising, which is also held annually on May 18. There are patriotic and cultural activities with speeches by several Haitian leaders, state and city officials. In New York, there is the Haitian Day Parade that usually takes place on Nostrand Ave.

May reminds Haitians of the historic pact signed by the Black and Mulatto officers at the May 1803's congress. As a result, those officers created the

Haitian Flag on the last day of the congress, on May 18, 1803. And, under that flag, they fought and expelled the French army, so Haiti became the first Black independent country in the world on January 1st, 1804.

The Haitian Slave Revolution of August 14, 1791 would have never been the only successful slave revolution in the world if General Toussaint Louverture, who was born on May 20, 1743, had not use his military genius to organize and lead the slaves from victory to victory against the powerful armies of Spain, Great Britain and France.

Haitian Heritage Month is celebrated in Massachusetts, New York, and Florida with parades, flag raisings, conferences, radio and TV programs, festivals, and exhibits, etc. It's a pride-filled month for Haitians who despite their country's social, political and economic turmoil and the discrimination they suffer in many parts of the world have a great history and culture to celebrate.

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Let us celebrate our heritage with pride and dignity regardless of our differences in order to promote and share our culture. Our heritage is significant for all of us as well as other ethnic groups within the Caribbean community in the United States and throughout the world. As Dr. Carruthers stated, Haitian was the "Irritated Genie" that avenged the atrocities that were committed against all African people.

[http://www.haitiantreasures.com/HT\\_IMAGES/HT\\_heritage.month.htm](http://www.haitiantreasures.com/HT_IMAGES/HT_heritage.month.htm)