



Lei Day May 1, 2025

In Hawaii the May Day is celebrated with the tradition of Lei. A festival of the natives of Hawaii, nurtured since time immemorial, Lei was officially celebrated first in 1929.

Though Lei is also thought to be in praise of the season of summer, it is celebrated in a very different way compared to the traditions associated with the European spring celebration.

The native islanders have some wonderful customs. They regard this day as a auspicious day. They greet the day with lei. A lei is a garland or necklace of flowers given in Hawaii as a token of welcome or farewell. Lei Day began in 1928. Leis are most commonly made of carnations, kika blossoms, ginger blossoms, jasmine blossoms, or orchids and are usually about 18 inches (46 cm) long.

Everyone gives the gift of a lei to another, putting it around the receiver's neck and accompanying it with the traditional kiss. Some Hawaiian celebrations are complete with pageants, a Lei Queen and her court.

While leaving the island a traveler customarily tosses the farewell lei onto the harbor waters. The drift of the lei back to the shore indicates that the person will someday return to the islands. The custom of wearing leis originated with the indigenous Hawaiians, who wove necklaces of leaves or ferns or sometimes strung dried shells, fruits, beads, or bright feathers for personal adornment. Hawaiians celebrate Lei Day on May 1, symbolizing their tradition of friendliness.

May Day May 1, 2025

May day is one of our oldest holidays. It began in ancient times when people worshiped many gods whom they honored on the first days of spring. They believed that as a result of May Day festivities, the sun would shine warmer and brighter, and flowers and plants would be more plentiful.

In the Western Hemisphere, we still celebrate May Day, not to please the gods, but to welcome the new life and colors of spring. In America, it is customary to gather flowers on May Day. Often, children make May baskets for friends or for elderly people. They hang each basket on the doorknob of a friend or neighbor, ring the doorbell, and run away.

In 1907, New York school children began to hold May day celebrations in the city parks. They danced about painted May poles and decorated them with ribbons or paper streamers and brightly colored balloons. In some places there is a May Queen who reigns over the festive events of the day. Wherever May Day is celebrated, it is a joyous, happy festival of life!

Cinco de Mayo May 5, 2025



One of more than 365 festivals celebrated by people of Mexican descent, Cinco de Mayo (the Fifth of May), commemorates the victory of a group of untrained soldiers against thousands of well-armed, professional soldiers at Puebla, Mexico, on May 5, 1862.

The French defeat must have surprised Napoleon III, the ruler of France, who was attempting to annex Mexico by taking advantage of the destruction and bankruptcy that existed there.

Mexico's condition at that time was the result of the War of Reform (1858-1860), an internal political, economic, and religious struggle. At the end of this civil war, Mexico owed more than \$80,000,000 to foreigners. France invaded Mexico, using debt collection as an excuse. Napoleon III's true motivation, however, was total control of Mexico and its potential wealth!



An important patriotic celebration, the fiesta of Cinco de Mayo, often includes speeches by government officials, fireworks, and parades. Lively dances and games, mariachi music, traditional foods, and colorful decorations provide additional enjoyment for festival participants.

Teacher Appreciation Day May 5, 2025 (Appreciation Week: May 5-9, 2025)

Teacher Appreciation Week is a time for honoring teachers and recognizing the contributions they make to our lives. As early as 1944 an Arkansas teacher named Mattye Whyte Woodridge began writing letters to politicians and education leaders explaining the need for a day to honor teachers. And in 1953 Eleanor Roosevelt one of the many to whom she wrote persuaded the 81st Congress to proclaim a National Teacher Day, which is always the Tuesday of the first full week of May. Use the May calendar to share a fact each day about your special profession who knows, you may even learn a few things about the history of education!

[National Education Association](#)

[PTA Teacher Appreciation Tips/Polls/Certificates](#)

Gift Ideas: make apple prints with a homemade stamp, make chocolate dipped spoons, give a Blockbuster gift card, give a gift card to their favorite spot, send a gift basket filled with special goodies, send flowers, give her your picture framed, office supplies and more...

Children's Book Week - Read Forever May 5-9, 2025

Children's Book Week originated in the belief that children's books and literacy are life-changers. In 1913, Franklin K. Matthews, the librarian of the Boy Scouts of America, began touring the country to promote higher standards in children's books. He proposed creating a Children's Book Week, which would be supported by all interested groups: publishers, booksellers, and librarians.

Mathews enlisted two important allies: Frederic G. Melcher, the visionary editor of Publishers Weekly, and Anne Carroll Moore, the Superintendent of Children's Works at the New York Public Library and a major figure in the library world. With the help of Melcher and Moore, in 1916, the American Booksellers Association and the American Library Association sponsored a Good Book Week with the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1944, the newly-established Children's Book Council

assumed responsibility for administering Children's Book Week. In 2008, Children's Book Week moved from November to May. At that time, administration of Children's Book Week, including planning official events and creating original materials, was transferred to Every Child a Reader, the philanthropic arm of the children's publishing industry, and The Children's Book Council became a [CBW](#).

Celebrate Mother's Day May 11, 2025

(In Mexico - Mother's Day is Celebrated Every May 10th)

Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday in May - a time when flowers are in bloom. Mother's Day is a special time for children to honor their mothers (as well as grandmothers and other "mothers") and show appreciation for their love and caring.

Julia Ward Howe, social reformer and poet, made the first suggestion for a Mother's Day in the United States. In 1872, she suggested Mother's Day be on June 2 and that it be a day dedicated to peace. She sponsored Mother's Day meetings in Boston for several years, and people in other towns began to do the same.

In 1907, Anna Jarvis of Grafton, West Virginia, began a campaign for a nationwide observance of Mother's Day. She also began the custom of wearing a carnation on that day - a colored carnation if one's mother is living and a white carnation if one's mother has died.

On May 9, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution of Congress authorizing federal agencies to observe Mother's Day. The following year, Mother's Day was proclaimed as an annual national holiday.

Mothers are often taken out for dinner, given greeting cards, flowers, or handmade gifts as expressions of love and appreciation to "moms" of all ages.

In Mexico, a special Mass is conducted for the mothers.



Armed Forces Day May 15, 2025

The 3rd Saturday in May is celebrated in the United States as Armed Forces Day to honor Americans serving in Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

The Armed Forces Week begins on the second Saturday of May and ends on the third Sunday of May. The exceptions are the National Guard and Reserve units may celebrate Armed Forces Day/Week over any period in May due to their unique training schedules.

Memorial Day May 26, 2025



We give thanks on Memorial Day that we live in a free nation and honor those who gave their lives for that blessing. Memorial Day is also called Decoration Day. Since World War I, it has also been called Poppy Day. Volunteers sell small, red artificial flowers as a fund-raiser for disabled veterans.

The location of the first observance of Memorial Day is in dispute. Some claim the custom of honoring war dead began in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania.

Others claim the custom was originated by some Southern women who placed flowers on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers after the Civil War. According to one writer, the first Memorial Day service took place on May 30, 1866, on Belle Isle, a burial ground for Union soldiers in the St. James River, at Richmond, Virginia.



The school superintendent and the mayor planned the program of hymns and speeches and had the burial ground decorated with flowers. In 1966, however, the U.S. government proclaimed that Waterloo, New York, was the birthplace of Memorial Day. On May 5, 1865, the people of Waterloo had honored soldiers who had died in the Civil War.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic (an organization of Union veterans of the Civil War), named May 30th as a special day to honor the graves of Union soldiers.



The selection of May 30th is attributed to a Virginian of French descent, Cassandra Oliver Moncure, who may have selected this date because it was "The Day of Ashes" in France—the day that Napoleon's remains were returned to France from St. Helena.

The custom of placing flowers on graves is an old one that exists in many countries. Today, almost everywhere around the globe, people have a special day to honor not only those who gave their lives in battle, but also family members and friends whom they wish to remember.

The Northern states and some Southern states celebrate Memorial Day on the last Monday in May. This date was made a federal holiday in 1971. Some Southern states have Memorial Day celebrations to honor Confederate soldiers who died in the Civil War. Mississippi and Alabama celebrate Confederate Memorial Day on the last Monday in April. In Florida and Georgia, the date is April 26. May 10 is Memorial Day in North and South Carolina, and the holiday is June 3 in Kentucky, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Texas observes Confederate Heroes Day on January 19 (Robert E. Lee's birthday).

Graduation May

Graduation is the completion of one grade or school and moving up to the next level or exiting a school. We associate graduation with the receipt of a diploma or degree.

A celebration with family, friends and relatives usually follows the graduation ceremony in order to recognize his/her accomplishment and hard work.

May is...

- American Lung Association Month
- Asian-American Heritage Month
- Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
- Better Hearing and Speech Month
- Better Sleep Month
- Clean Air Campaign Month
- Correct Posture Month
- Creative Beginnings Month
- Date Your Mate Month
- Fungal Infection Awareness Month
- Family Support Month
- Helping America Work Month
- International Business Improvement Awareness Month
- National Allergy/Asthma Awareness Month
- National Arthritis Month National Good Car Care Month
- National Bicycle Month
- National Mine Month
- National Photo Month
- National Salad Month
- National Egg Month
- National Barbecue Month
- National Hamburger Month
- National Hepatitis Awareness Month
- National Mental Health Month
- National Osteoporosis Prevention Month
- National Physical Fitness and Sports Month
- National Recommitment Month
- National Scholarship Month
- National Self-Discovery Month
- National Senior Travel Month
- National Sight-Saving Month
- National Stroke Awareness Month
- Older Americans Month
- Personal History Awareness Month
- Revise Your Work Schedule Month
- Women's Healthcare Month

Special May Week Celebrations:

- Week1 Pen-Friends Week International
- Week 2 National Nurses Day and Week
- Week 2 Be Kind to Animals Week
- Week 2 Flexible Work Arrangements Week
- Week 2 Jewish Heritage Week
- Week 2 National Family Week
- Week 2 National Historic Preservation Week

- Week 2 National Pet Week
- Week 2 National Postcard Week
- Week 2 National Wildflower Week
- Week 2 National Etiquette Week
- Week 2 National Herb Week
- Week 3 Universal Family Week
- Week 3 Homes for the Aging Week
- Week 3 National Transportation Week
- Week 3 National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week
- Week 3 National Police Week
- Week 3 Medic Alert Awareness Week
- Week 4 National Safe Boating Week
- Week 4 Good Stewardship Week
- Week 4 International Salute to Public Relations Week
- Week 4 National New Friends, Old Friends Week
- Week 4 Buckle Up America! Week
- Week 4 National Backyard Games Week



Special May Days

1 Mother Goose Day * Save The Rhino Day * Executive Coaching Day * May Day * Lei Day (Hawaii) * Mother Goose Day * National Peace of Mind Day * Teen Day * Beltrane * St. Peregrine Lazois's Day * Law Day * 2 Fire Day * Yom Hashoah (Jewish) * St. Zoe's Day * 3 Holocaust Remembrance Day * Lumpy Rug Day * National Anxiety Disorders Screen Day * St. Phillip of Zell's Day

13 Leprechaun Day * Native American Day * Astronomy Day * St. Robert Bellamine's Day * 14 National Dance Like A Chicken Day * St. Matthias's Day * 15 National Chocolate Chip Day * Police Memorial Day * St. Dymphna's Day * Armed Forces Day * 16 Wear Purple For Peace Day * Biographer's Day * St. Brendan the Voyager's Day * 17 Pack Rat Day * National Employee Health and Fitness Day * St. Pascal Babylon's Day * 18 Armed Forces Day * International Museum Day * Visit Your Relatives Day * St. Eric's IX's Day * 19 Frog Jumping Jubilee Day * National Bike to Work Day * St. Ivo of Kermartin's Day * 20 Eliza Doolittle Day * 21 National Memo Day * National Waitresses/Waiters Day * Youth Against Violence Day * St. Bernardino's of Siena's Day * 20-21 Lindbergh Flight: Anniversary (1927) * 22 Buy-A-Musical-Instrument Day * Victoria Day (Canada) * St. Rita of Cascia's Day * 23 Penny Day * Lag B'Omer * St. Didier's Day * 24 National Escargot Day * St. Sara's Day * 25 National Tap Dance Day * National Missing Children Day * St. Bede's Day * 26 Memorial Day Observance (US) * Grey Day * St. Philip Neri's Day * 27 Body Painting Arts Festival * International Jazz Day * St. Augustine of Canterbury's Day * 28 National Hamburger Day * Ancestor Honor Day * St. Bernard of Menthon's Day * 29 End Of The Middle Ages Day * John Fitzgerald Kennedy: Birth Anniversary * Encourage Employer Support Of The Guard And Reserve * Encourage Support of the WWII Memorial * St. Bona's Day * Spring Bank Holiday (UK) 30 My Bucket's Got A Hole In It Day * St. Joan of Arc's Day * 31 National Macaroon Day * National Senior Health and Fitness Day *