The Fall quarter is almost over, and it is dark around us - a darkness that, as we know, goes well beyond the physical world. Members of our community have experienced the direct impact of overwhelming conflicts around the globe. Considering the grief, anger, trauma, fear, and loneliness surrounding us, darkness is, indeed, all around. And yet... the December celebrations invite us to remember light, resilience, renewal, community, and the power of hope.

A cliché comes to mind: we only see stars in the dark. We hope to tap into the strength in our community, this month’s celebrations, our ability to be compassionate and become light (stars, really) for one another and our students. Keeping hope alive is not for the faint of heart – it takes intention, courage, and resources. Please see below the resources in our community that are available to staff and students.

We wish you a restful break!

Monthly Celebrations:

Dec 3rd: International Day of Persons with Disabilities
December 8th: Bohdi Day
Dec 8th-15th: Hanukkah
Dec 21st: Winter Solstice
Dec 26th: 2023 – Jan 1st 2024: Kwanza
Dec 29th: Wounded Knee Massacre
Dec 31st: Ōmisoka

Spotlight on:

Winter Solstice
Rose Anne Featherston: Painting with Light
Winter solstice marks, on some accounts, the beginning of the winter and the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. While winter is officially here, more light comes in every day! The word solstice, derived from solstitium in Latin, means standing still: the sun’s “stillness” before changing its path.

The date has been celebrated throughout history in various regions of the world. The temple of Karnak in Egypt, for example, was built about 2,000 years B.C.E to mark the date, as were the Nasca Lines in Peru (etched around years 1 to 700), and Newgrange in Ireland (built around 3200 B.C.E.). In China and East Asia, the Dongzhi Festival marks the return of longer days. The “Yalda night” marks the date in Iran with gatherings and poetry readings. Winter solstice is also celebrated in our area, as we rejoice in longer days in our big “Pacific Northwest dark.”

Sources:

What’s the winter solstice? (nationalgeographic.com)

When is the winter solstice? The shortest day | Royal Museums Greenwich (rmg.co.uk)
Rose Anne Featherston: Sculptural Photographs: How I Saw Paris

Rose Anne Featherston’s current exhibit at the Mobius Gallery explores the theme of “how we perceive the world, as we move through it.” Rose Anne paints with light, transforming the familiar in unexpected ways – her photographs become sculptures, and her images of Paris become abstract paintings.

Rose Anne is also a mediator, integrating her professional role into her artwork. To apprehend the full image of her installation, Rose Anne invites the viewer to move around, changing their points of view to see the whole. Rose Anne will graciously return to the Gallery one more time to discuss her interest in multiple narratives and its role in her artwork. We hope you can join us at the gallery for a conversation with the artist on December 7, at 12 pm.
OFFICE OF EQUITY & INCLUSION

CAMPUS RESOURCES

- E&I ‘Drop-In’ Hours – on the third Monday of each month from 10am to 11am, @ Chari’s office (CC3-134) or visit her Zoom room https://cascadia.zoom.us/j/9723045729.

- Connect with Chari directly at cdavenport@cascadia.edu, or the Office of Equity & Inclusion at equity@cascadia.edu.

- Diversity & Equity Center – CC1-002, or contact Ana Nina, Director of E&I Programs directly at anina@cascadia.edu.

- E&I Council through Chari Davenport at cdavenport@cascadia.edu.

- HR Director, Ifrah Mohamed at imohamed@cascadia.edu.

- HR Director, Jason Rue at jrue@cascadia.edu.

- Health and wellness resources: Employee Assistance Program.

- Student health and wellness:
  - Counseling Center - Student Affairs (uwb.edu); uwbcc@uw.edu; 425.352.3183.
  - Health and Wellness Resource Center - ARC Health and Wellness Resource Center (cascadia.edu); hawrc@uw.edu; 425.352.5190.
  - Health and Wellness Resource Center Benefits Hub - HaWRC - Benefits Hub (google.com).
  - Additional resources listed at Counseling (cascadia.edu).
  - Cascadia College CARE team - CARE Team (cascadia.edu); Online CARE Report | Cascadia College Advocate (symplicity.com).

- Cascadia Bias and Incident Response Team - Equity & Inclusion (cascadia.edu).

OFFICE OF EQUITY & INCLUSION

(FREE) COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

• **Pacific Bonsai Museum**: ‘A Bonsai Solstice’—the bonsai collection is open to the public at night. [Plan Your Visit | Pacific Bonsai Museum](#)

• **Winter Renegade Craft Fair 2023**: Winter Renegade Craft Fair 2023 at Magnuson Park Hangar 30 in Seattle, WA - Every day, from December 9–10 - [EverOut Seattle](#)

• **Henry Art Gallery**: Light Reign: James Turrell Skyspace - [Henry Art Gallery](#)

• **Seattle Center**: Seattle Center Winterfest, Nov. 24 – Dec. 31, 2023 [Seattle Center Winterfest, presented by Symetra](#)

• **Greenlake Pathways of light**: (16) Green Lake Pathway of Lights | [Facebook](#)

• **Redmond Lights**: [Redmond Lights | Redmond, WA](#)

• **Bellevue Snowflake Lane**: Snowflake Lane - [The Bellevue Collection](#)

• **Bellevue Lights**: [GARDEN d’LIGHTS - Bellevue Botanical Garden](#)

• **Bothell/Kenmore/Lake Forest Park/Shoreline**: Winter Porch Light Parade: [Winter Porch Light Parade | Bothell WA](#)

• **Bothell Lights**: (20+) Bothell’s Tree Lighting Festival and Holiday Market 2023 | [Facebook](#)

• **Kenmore Luminary Walk**: [https://www.kenmorewa.gov/our-city/special-events/luminary-walk](https://www.kenmorewa.gov/our-city/special-events/luminary-walk)

• **Glows – glorious light of west Seattle**: Hometown Holidays - West Seattle Junction Association (wsjunction.org),

• **Local market**: United Indians Native Art Market » United Indians of All Tribes Foundation - [Daybreak Star](#)

• **Museum of Flight**: Solstice with Sasquatch - [The Museum of Flight Art + Flight](#)