WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
By Presidential proclamation, March is Women’s History Month (WHM). It’s a wonderful time of year to reflect on the many amazing contributions women have made to society. Every year, WHM has a different theme, and 2023’s theme is “Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories.” Ask yourself, “What can I do this month to honor the legacies of women, past and present, who have contributed to media and storytelling?” To get the ball rolling, here’s a quote from Maya Angelou: “We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.” (womenshistorymonth.gov, n.d.)

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

Wednesday, March 8, is International Women’s Day (IWD). The theme of 2023’s IWD is #EmbraceEquity. This worldwide campaign seeks to raise awareness about the difference between equality and equity. It comes with a call to action for collective activism toward gender parity by asking people to stand up to gender discrimination, challenge stereotypes, and call out bias whenever we see it. This is not a fight for women alone. Forging an equal world requires allies to step up and call out these injustices too. When we all embrace equity, we embrace belonging, inclusion, and success for everyone. (International Womens Day, 2023)
CASCADIA SCHOLARS
The Cascadia Scholars Program provides mentoring, resources, and support for BIPOC, marginalized and underrepresented students. Scholarships are also available for those who qualify. The Program works with these historically underrepresented groups to help connect educational goals to academic and career journeys.
Our final deadline for Fall admission is on March 15th. Students can apply online on our webpage [here](#).
Holi, which is known as the Festival of Color is a traditional Hindu holiday that celebrates the coming of Spring. It is also known as the Festival of Love with one of its main themes always being unity. Holi is known for its colors and celebrated on the last full moon of the lunar month. While there are many stories associated with Holi, the origin of love comes from the story of how Krishna (who loved playing pranks) fell in love with Radha, a milkmaid. Krishna was afraid that Radha would not like him because his skin was unintentionally turned blue as a child from an assassination attempt! During a game, he playfully painted her face with different colors, creating the origin of the colored powder and water that is tossed around during the Holi celebration. While Holi is celebrated throughout the world, it is the most popular in India and Nepal. (Gonzalez, 2017)

MOTHERS DAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Unlike the U.S. when Mother's Day is celebrated in May, in the Middle East it is celebrated in March. Originally the special day was introduced in Egypt in 1956 by journalist Mustafa Amin who campaigned for the celebration of mothers for over a year. The first day of Spring was chosen because of its representation of new life. Teachers and elders at work are also celebrated this day to show appreciation for their hard work and contributions to raising the next generation. Show love to the "mothers" in your life on this day! (JOI, 2019)
NOWRUZ
From Dr. Kimia Ghanbeigi, Physics Professor: Nowruz, also known as the Persian New Year, is a joyous and vibrant celebration that marks the beginning of the spring season and the first day of the Iranian calendar. The word "Nowruz" means "new day" in Persian. It is celebrated by millions of people around the world, particularly in Iran, and many other countries across Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the Middle East. Persian New Year celebration, which is based on solar calendar, starts at the exact moment of the vernal equinox on March 20th or 21st, this creating a sense of unity for people no matter where they live since it is celebrated to the same second in time around the globe. During Nowruz, families and friends come together to celebrate with traditional foods, music, and customs such as setting up a display of flowers, spring plants, wearing new cloths, painting eggs, and setting up a haft-seen table with seven symbolic items starting with the letter "S." Nowruz is a time of renewal, hope, and joy, symbolizing the arrival of spring and the rejuvenation of nature. It is a time for people to come together, celebrate their culture and heritage, and look forward to the year ahead.
Wishing you all a beautiful Spring coming in: Day:19, hour: 03, Min:47, sec 39, which means in pacific time the moment Persian New Year is celebrated is in March/20/23 -14:24:28.
The writings are wishing happy new year, .... the first on the right says: "Good Thoughts, Good Words, Good Deeds" which is a well-known Persian motto coming from a Persian faith.

WORKS CITED