



SoM Belong, Include, Empower: January 2023

Dear OHSU School of Medicine Community:

Happy New Year! The start of a new year provides an opportunity for new beginnings and a chance to reflect and create actionable plans for new growth. The changes we seek keep us moving in a shared direction toward attaining our goals of advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging (DEIB) - as outlined in the [SoM Diversity Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism Strategic Plan](#).

Our plan is to continue organizing, prioritizing and directing the learnings and best practices launched in departments, centers, institutes and programs with a roadmap accompanied by training, guidance and resources. Let us begin the New Year with a commitment to continue creating individual and group change, as we drive meaningful progress as faculty, staff, learners, fellows and leaders.

Every month, we are excited to bring you the school's DEI newsletter to continue providing information, activities, webinars and resources for all SoM employees and learners in order to build awareness, grow knowledge, and bring alignment and progress under our shared plan. Our monthly newsletter also brings awareness of historical events that impact our present time.

This month, we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King. This celebration provides an opportunity to reflect upon Dr. King's words, their meanings, and how they are relevant in 2023 and for the ongoing struggle of equality for all. At the end of the month, January 27th, we also recognize International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This day was created by the United Nations to mark the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and to honor the 6 million Jewish men, women and children of the Holocaust and other millions of victims of Nazism. It is important for us to continue to build awareness and inclusion. Understanding the past also brings understanding and appreciation to our present - what matters to you matters to me and vice versa.

As your associate dean for diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, I look forward to continuing to serve as a resource, partner and collaborator for alignment and impact. More details of our new initiatives, programs and resources to be launched in 2023 will be shared in our newsletter, on our website and through other forms of communication, as we advance our united efforts.

Let us look to the New Year for new beginnings and take that next step together.

Sincerely,

Leslie Garcia, M.P.A., Ed.D.

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
OHSU School of Medicine

OHSU School of Medicine Open Houses



On January 20th the School of Medicine Undergraduate Medical Education Admissions Program is holding its campus-visit days for prospects currently applying to this admission's cycle. The M.D. Program information day will be held on April, 7, 2023. Please visit [Premedical Outreach and Guidance](#) for more information.

On January 27th, the School of Medicine Graduate Medical Education is hosting an open house for underrepresented in medicine (URiM) residency applicants who were invited to interview for our OHSU programs. This event invites URiM applicants to take a closer look at what our institution and programs have to offer, and learn of diversity and inclusion-specific efforts at our institution. This event is only available to programs participating in the main National Resident Matching Program. OHSU Graduate Medical Education Programs are invited to participate. Reach out to whitley@ohsu.edu to sign your program up for participation in this outreach effort.

January Observances

[National Birth Defects Awareness Month](#)

Birth defects are structural changes that present at birth and can affect almost any part of the body. Advancements in medicine and surgery have led to better survival and more children born with birth defects grow up to lead full lives.

[National Glaucoma Awareness Month](#)

Glaucoma is a leading cause of vision loss and blindness in the U.S. Glaucoma has no early symptoms and it has no cure. That is why early treatment can often stop the damage and protect your vision. Anyone can get glaucoma but those at higher risk include everyone over age 60, especially Latinos/Hispanics, and African American/Black individuals over age 40, as well as anyone with a family history of glaucoma.

[Thyroid Awareness Month](#)

The thyroid's job is to make thyroid hormones, which are secreted into the blood and then carried to every tissue in the body. Thyroid hormones help the body use energy, stay warm and keep the brain, heart, muscles, and other organs working as they should.

[Cervical Health Awareness Month](#)

Cervical cancer is the 4th most common cancer in women. According to the National Cancer Institute, nearly 14,500 women in the U.S. received a diagnosis of cervical cancer and more than 4,200 died from the disease last year. Learn how to lower your risk and about symptoms, risk factors, screening tests, diagnosis and treatment. If you are over the age of 45, were diagnosed with cervical cancer in the last 10 years, reside in the Pacific Northwest and identify as Latina, [OHSU's Women's Health Research Unit](#) wants to hear your story.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day | Jan. 16



After two years of celebrating virtually, the community can now come together in person at [a breakfast](#) organized by The Skanner Foundation that for decades has been a storied gathering, especially for Portland leaders and members of the African American and other minority communities. Celebrate the life, work and vision of civil rights icon, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day | Jan. 27

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

January 27 is designated by the United Nations General Assembly as International Holocaust Remembrance Day (IHRD). Since 2005, the UN and its member states have held commemoration ceremonies to mark the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and to honor the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions of other victims of Nazism.

KEY FACTS

- 1 The purpose of International Holocaust Remembrance Day is two-fold: to serve as a date for official commemoration of the victims of the Nazi regime and to promote Holocaust education throughout the world.
- 2 Since 2010, the UN has designated specific themes for the annual commemorations that focus on topics such as collective experiences and universal human rights.
- 3 In addition to International Holocaust Remembrance Day, many countries hold national commemoration ceremonies on other dates connected to the Holocaust.

January 27 is designated by the United Nations General Assembly as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The United Nations established this global holiday to remember the approximately 6 million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions other victims of Nazism.

Lunar New Year



The Lunar New Year is the beginning of a new year based on the lunar cycles, which falls a few weeks later than January 1. Celebrated by Asian communities all over the world, the Lunar New Year festival lasts up to 16 days, but only the first seven are considered a public holiday. In 2023 it begins on Sunday, Jan. 22 and ends on Feb. 5. Each new year marks the transition between Chinese zodiac signs, with 2023 being the year of the rabbit.

[This year's Portland fair](#) will showcase both traditional and contemporary Chinese cultural activities, including a Lion Dance and other Chinese folk dances, Chinese instrumental music, Chinese calligraphy, Chinese martial arts demonstrations, children's games and more.

Enrichment

All events are listed in Pacific Time, even those hosted in other time zones.

[Friday, Jan. 6, 10 a.m. | Call to Action for Science Education](#)

Join this virtual workshop hosted by the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine. It will focus on ways to use data to map opportunity and anchor decisions that can improve equitable access to science learning. Examples on how to analyze and use data to help advance equity goals will be discussed.

[Tuesday, Jan. 10, 4 p.m. | Neurodevelopment in Autism and Related Childhood Disorders](#)

Sponsored by the OHSU Brain Institute and presented by Leanna Hernandez, Ph.D., this talk will focus on using a genetics-first approach to parse neurobiological heterogeneity in autism and related childhood disorders, understand the shared genetic etiology between co-occurring conditions, and identify early brain-based biomarkers of risk for future psychiatric symptoms.

[Wednesday, Jan. 11, 9 a.m. | Confronting U.S. History: We Must End Racism to End Health Disparities](#)

The George Washington School of Medicine presents the Annual MLK Lecture Series "Advancing the Dream: Why We Can't Wait." A free CME-bearing, moderated discussion with Pulitzer Prize-winning racial scholar Nikole Hannah-Jones, to recognize the enduring impact of racism as an ongoing threat to health equity.

[Friday, Jan. 20, noon | Why Aren't There More Black People in Oregon?](#)

Sponsored by OHSU's School of Medicine Office of Faculty Development and the Office of Educational Innovation and Improvement, Faculty Development Fridays presents [Dr. Antwon Chavis](#), a pediatrician at OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital and assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of General Pediatrics.

[Tuesday, Jan. 24, noon - 4:45 p.m. | 10th Annual GEAHM Leadership Conference](#)

The Gender Equity in Academic Health and Medicine Committee is hosting their 9th annual GEAHM Leadership Conference. Join for an afternoon of conversation, inspiration and networking. The goal is to educate, mentor and empower women and gender diverse individuals.

[Wednesday, Jan. 25, noon | Body Image, Eating Disorders and Weight](#)

Join the quarterly series on issues generated by and important to the transgender and gender-diverse community. This series aims to educate providers to eliminate disparities in health care and promote equity, healing and visibility.

[Thursday, Jan. 26, 9 a.m. | Legacy of Medicine During the Holocaust and its Contemporary Relevance](#)

This AAMC webinar will provide an opportunity to use the humanities, specifically the study of history, for critical reflection on the role of medicine in the Holocaust and its relationship to issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.

[Thursday, Jan. 26, noon | Cancer Disparities: Methods and Measurement of Racial and Ethnic Diversity](#)

This session will feature presentations from Drs. Dina Martinez Tyson and Scarlett Lin Gomez. Attendees will learn about cross-cultural considerations and methodological processes used to disaggregate epidemiological data, adapt measures and develop programs for Latinos across the cancer continuum; and research on cancer in the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) populations to understand cancer patterns and risk and prognostic factors in distinct groups.

[Tuesday, Jan. 31, 11 a.m. | Building a Career as an LGBTQ+ Scientist](#)

Join the National Cancer Institute Office of Cancer Survivorship for this new investigators series. The intended audience is early-career cancer survivorship investigators and those interested in building a career in survivorship research.

Opportunities

[Oregon Rural Health 2023 Forum of Aging, submit proposal by Jan. 13](#)

[The 2023 OHSU Equity Research Program \(internship\), submit application by Jan. 23](#)

[AAMC Award for Distinguished Research in the Biomedical Sciences, submit nomination by Jan. 27](#)

[AAMC Robert Wood Johnson Foundation David E. Rogers Award, submit nomination by Jan. 27](#)
