

THE
QUEENS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HELEN M. MARSHALL
Queens Borough President



2009

A Message from Queens Borough President Helen M. Marshall



It gives me great pleasure to offer you this 2009 Diversity Calendar! In addition to civic observances, the calendar lists major holidays from the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, and Buddhist faiths, as well as significant dates for the many populations living and working in Queens. It is a valuable resource for individuals, community groups, government agencies, and businesses in the Borough and beyond.

This calendar is a project of the Queens General Assembly, a core initiative of my Marshall Plan, which brings together long-time residents and recent immigrants from around the Borough. These appointed Delegates meet on a regular basis to learn about each other's cultures, and to address Quality of Life issues that we all have in common. Every year, my Delegates play an important role in gathering information for this calendar and in verifying its accuracy. Now we are proud to share it with a wider audience via the Internet! Please visit my web site, www.queensbp.org, then click on "Queens General Assembly" to find the calendar and additional resources.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you and yours a Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year.

Sincerely,

HELEN M. MARSHALL
President of the Borough of Queens

QUEENS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Alumni Delegates (Second Term): Frances Adams, Community Board 10 * Jagir Singh Bains, Sikh Cultural Society * Carolyn E. Brown, Community Board 8 * Ronald Casey, Community Board 2 * Robert Cermeli, Community Board 5 * Ruby Danta, Hispanas de Queens * Renee Elias, Community Board 6 & Community Mediation Services * Adjoa Esinam Gzifa, Community Board 12 * Chan Jamoona, United Hindu Cultural Council Senior Center * Joyce Hucless Julian, Butler/Buell Street - 31st Avenue Block Association * Ellen Kang, COMET & Korean American Community * Rovenia McGowan, Community Board 4; Atef Mohamed, Masjid El Ber of Astoria * Mark "Boomie" Pinter, Community Board 14 * Rabbi Abba Refson, Ohel Chabad Lubavitch * Leoncio Romero, Community Board 3 * Mohamed Z. Safie, Community Board 9 * Barbara Smith, Deerfield Area Association * Carlos Talisaysay, Community Board 7 * Nasimun Wahed, Bangladesh Institute of Performing Arts & Pragati * Linna Yu, Elmhurst Branch Library & New York Chinese Women's Association

Alumni Delegates (First Term): Aida Bartolome, Community Board 2 & Foundation for Filipino Artists * Tracey Bowes, Community Board 12 * Latchman Budhai, Community Board 9 * Rosemary Ciulla-Frisone, Community Board 10 * Bess DeBetham, Community Board 13 * Dino Dominguez, Liga Deportiva Estudiantil * Yang Hee Hahn, Korean American Community * Tariq Hamid, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community * Laura James, Community Board 11 * Norma Jimenez, Community Board 3 * Richard Khuzami, Community Board 1 * Hing Wah Lai, Community Board 6 * Sirpuhi Mark, Armenian Cultural Center * Millicent O'Meally, Community Board 7 * Don Passantino, Community Board 5 * Yvonne H. Plummer, Elmhurst Hospital Center & Queens Hospital Center Auxiliary Board * Lucy Schilero, Community Board 4 * Harbachan Singh, Esq., Sikh American Friendship Foundation * Monsignor Robert J. Thelen, Immaculate Conception * Carol Wilkins, Ravenswood Resident Association

Advisors: Daniel Abreu, Latino Educator and Activist * Kathleen Bracken, NYC Commission on Human Rights * Demetrios K. Demetrios, Aristotelis of Halkidiki * Mala Desai, Pragati * Paul Engel, Flushing Jewish Community Council & Queens Counseling Services * Kewulay Kamara, John Jay College & Badenya * Andrew P. Jackson (Sekou Molefi Baako), Langston Hughes Community Library & Cultural Center * Nahum Kaziev, Educational Center for New Americans * Dr. Madhulika S. Khandelwal, Asian/American Center at Queens College * Joyce Moy, Esq., Asian American/Asian Research Institute * John Y. Park, Korean American Community Empowerment Council * Jean Phelps, York College * Anita Romero Segarra, Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning (JCAL)

JANUARY	2009
1	New Year's Day
1	Kwanzaa ends
1	Independence Day (Haiti)
5	Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday (Sikh)
6	Feast of the Epiphany - Three Kings' Day (Christian)
6	Christmas (Armenian)
7	Christmas (Orthodox)
7	Muharram – Islamic New Year (Muslim)
11	New Year's Day (Mahayana Buddhist)
15	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
19	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day - observed
26	Lunar New Year - Year of the Ox (Chinese)

FEBRUARY	2009
1	Black History Month begins
2	Groundhog Day (U.S.)
8	Tu B'Shvat begins at sundown (Jewish)
9	Tu B'Shvat (Jewish)
12	Lincoln's Birthday (U.S.)
14	Valentine's Day (U.S.)
16	Presidents' Day - observed (U.S.)
16	Washington's Birthday (U.S.) – observed
24	Mardi Gras
25	Ash Wednesday (Christian)
27	Independence Day (Dominican Republic)

MARCH	2009
1	Women's History Month begins
8	International Women's Day
8	Daylight Savings Time begins
9	Fast of Esther (Jewish)
10	Purim (Jewish)
11	Holi - Phagwah (Hindu)
17	St. Patrick's Day (Irish)
20	Spring begins
25	Independence Day (Greece)
26	Independence Day (Bangladesh)

APRIL	2009
5	Palm Sunday (Christian)
8	Passover begins at sundown (Jewish)
9	Passover 1 st Day (Jewish)
9	Holy Thursday (Christian)
10	Passover 2 nd Day (Jewish)
10	Good/Holy Friday (Christian)
12	Easter Sunday (Christian)
13	Baisakhi (Sikh)
16	Passover 8 th Day (Jewish)
21	Holocaust Remembrance Day (Jewish)
22	Earth Day
29	Independence Day (Israel)

MAY	2009
1	Asian Pacific American Heritage Month begins
1	May Day
5	Cinco de Mayo (Mexico)
8	V-E Day
9	Victory Day (Russia)
9	Wesak (Buddhist)
10	Mother's Day
15	Independence Day (Paraguay)
16	Armed Forces Day (U.S.)
20	Independence Day (Cuba)
21	Ascension Day (Christian)
22	Jerusalem Day (Jewish)
25	Memorial Day - observed (U.S.)
26	Independence Day (Guyana)
28	Ascension of Jesus (Orthodox)
28	Shavuot begins at sundown (Jewish)
29	Shavuot 1 st Day (Jewish)
30	Shavuot 2 nd Day (Jewish)
31	Pentecost (Christian)

JUNE	2009
1	Gay & Lesbian Pride Month begins
7	Pentecost (Orthodox)
12	Independence Day (Philippines)
14	Flag Day (U.S.)
19	Juneteenth (U.S.)
21	Father's Day
21	Summer begins

JULY	2009
1	Canada Day
4	American Independence Day
5	Independence Day (Venezuela)
9	Independence Day (Argentina)
20	Independence Day (Colombia)
28	Independence Day (Peru)
29	Fast of Tisha B'Av begins at sundown
30	Fast of Tisha B'Av (Jewish)

AUGUST	2009
6	Independence Day (Bolivia)
6	Independence Day (Jamaica)
10	Independence Day (Ecuador)
14	Janmashtami (Hindu)
14	Independence Day (Pakistan)
15	V-J Day
15	Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Christian)
15	Independence Day (Korea)
15	Independence Day (India)
22	Ramadan begins (Muslim)
25	Independence Day (Uruguay)
31	Independence Day (Trinidad & Tobago)

SEPTEMBER	2009
7	Labor Day (U.S.)
7	Independence Day (Brazil)
15	Hispanic Heritage Month begins
15	Independence Day (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua)
16	Independence Day (Mexico)
17	Citizenship Day (U.S.)
18	Independence Day (Chile)
18	Rosh Hashana begins at sundown (Jewish)
19	Rosh Hashana 1 st Day (Jewish)
20	Rosh Hashana 2 nd Day (Jewish)
21	Eid al-Fitr -- Ramadan ends (Muslim)
22	Autumn begins
27	Yom Kippur begins at sundown (Jewish)
28	Yom Kippur (Jewish)

COORDINATION: Susie Tanenbaum

RESEARCH: Daniel Abramov

OCTOBER	2009
2	Sukkot begins at sundown (Jewish)
3	Sukkot 1 st Day (Jewish)
3	Chusok Harvest Moon Festival begins (Korean)
4	Sukkot 2 nd Day (Jewish)
6	German-American Day
9	Sh'mini Atzeret begins at sundown (Jewish)
10	Sh'mini Atzeret (Jewish)
10	Simchat Torah begins at sundown (Jewish)
11	Simchat Torah (Jewish)
12	Dia de la Raza (Hispanic)
12	Columbus Day (U.S.)
17	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh)
24	United Nations Day
31	Halloween

NOVEMBER	2009
1	All Saints' Day (Christian)
1	Dia de los Muertos (Christian)
1	Daylight Savings Time ends
3	Independence Day (Panama)
3	Election Day
11	Independence Day (Poland)
11	Veterans Day (U.S.)
13	Birth of Guru Nanak (Sikh)
26	Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)
28	Eid al-Adha (Muslim)
29	Advent 1st Day (Christian)

DECEMBER	2009
8	Bodhi Day (Buddhist)
11	Chanukah begins at sundown (Jewish)
12	Chanukah 1 st Day (Jewish)
18	Muharram - Islamic New Year (Muslim)
19	Chanukah 8 th Day (Jewish)
21	Winter begins
24	Christmas Eve (Christian)
25	Christmas Day (Christian)
26	Kwanzaa begins (U.S.)
31	New Year's Eve