

# LINDENWOOD

## May 2018

May Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the United States. The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks on the project were Chinese immigrants.

May is Older Americans Month, established in 1963 to honor the legacies and contributions of older Americans and to support them as they enter their next stage of life.

May is Jewish American Heritage month, which recognizes the diverse contributions of the Jewish people to American culture.

**May 3:** Lailat al Bara'a, also known as Barat, or Night of Forgiveness, an Islamic holiday during which practitioners of the faith seek forgiveness for sins.

**May 5:** Cinco de Mayo which commemorates the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War (1861-1867). This day celebrates Mexican culture and heritage, including parades and mariachi music performances.

**May 15:** Ramadan, an Islamic holiday marked by fasting, praise, prayer and devotion to Islam

**May 17:** International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, a global celebration of sexual and gender diversities.

**May 21:** World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, a day set aside by the United Nations as an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to live together better.

**May 28:** Memorial Day in the United States. It is a federal holiday established to honor military veterans who died in wars fought by American forces.