



APRIL 2021

April is Autism Acceptance Month



In 1970, the Autism Society began a nationwide effort to promote autism awareness. This April, they continue their efforts to spread awareness, promote acceptance, and ignite change. ([Autism Society](#)).

Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and nonverbal communication. According to the Centers for Disease Control, [autism affects an estimated 1 in 54 children](#) in the United States today.

There is not one autism, but many subtypes influenced by a combination of genetic and environmental factors. Because autism is a spectrum disorder, each person with autism has a distinct set of strengths and challenges. Several factors may influence the development of autism, and it is often accompanied by sensory sensitivities and medical issues such as gastrointestinal (GI) disorders, seizures, or sleep disorders, as well as mental health challenges such as anxiety, depression, and attention issues.

For more information visit: [Autism Speaks](#)

April is National Arab American Heritage Month



As we celebrate National Arab American Heritage Month let us take time to increase our understanding of the nuanced and diverse aspects of Arab American Heritage. In the United States there are between 3.5-4 million people who identify as Arab American. There are 22 Arab nations in the world, they span from northern Africa through western Asia. To learn more we recommend you read the latest article about National Arab American Heritage Month from [Insight Into Diversity](#). You can also explore [ArabAmerica.com](#); they are a national media organization founded to promote an accurate image of the Arab American community. Additionally, the department of Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs at the University of Michigan has a few events during the month that are virtual, free and open to the public ([link](#)).

Earth Day

Earth Day is celebrated on April 22. The first Earth Day was organized in 1970 by Wisconsin Senator, Gaylord Nelson and environmental activist, Dennis Hayes as a national teach-in day on the environment. The purpose for the teach-in day was to bring awareness of environmental issues and force the topic onto the national agenda. April 22 was selected, in part, to maximize the reach to students on university campuses. Twenty million people gathered to hold demonstrations, rallies, and participate in activities promoting environment preservation.

While Earth Day has gained worldwide recognition, it is important to recognize and acknowledge that Indigenous communities globally have long held the view that human and community health is intertwined with the health of the environment. Thus, the decisions we make today will have a lasting impact for generations to come. Some Indigenous nations call this planning for [seven generations](#), the three generations that come before your own, and three generations after. Earth Day offers us a moment to reflect and educate ourselves and others about the land and environment. We encourage you to reflect on your connection and responsibility to the environment and in doing your part in preserving it. The decisions you make today and in the future matter.

The College of Menominee Nation's is having an Earth Day event, click the image below for more information and to register.

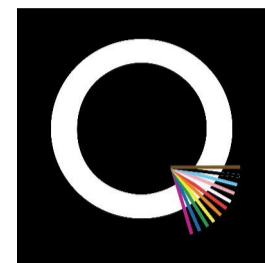


Stout Food+ Pantry Offers Support

For students in need of resources, Helping Hand is open limited hours Mon-Thurs as listed on [facebook.com/StoutHelpingHand](#). The food+ pantry is located at 09A Administration Building. They offer perishable and non-perishable food, hygiene items, school supplies, career clothing, and winter weather wear. They are open to all current Stout students.

Anyone looking to help support our students via the food pantry can do so by making an [online donation](#) to our University Foundation account or by dropping off nonexpired goods to our pantry location during our open hours. Groups wishing to do food drives and looking for most-needed items can email foodpantry@uwstout.edu.

Rainbow Graduation is April 29th



The Qube will be holding their Rainbow Graduation ceremony on April 29 from 6-8PM. Graduating students can now fill out [this form](#) to receive a rainbow tassel and participate in the program.

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is a time to honor and celebrate the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans, and to recognize how individuals and groups strengthen our communities. This month is a time to learn about diversity, through events and activities throughout the month. One month is never enough time to fully celebrate and embrace unique individuals and groups, allow this month to be a start on your journey to helping us create more inclusive and equitable spaces. Not sure where to start? Arizona State University has some [virtual events](#) that are open to the public.

Hmong Stout Student Organization



The Hmong Stout Student Organization (HSSO) was established in 1988 to provide social, cultural and academic enrichment

to its members. HSSO collaborates with other multicultural organization and community members to support and encourage the growth of diversity and development of inclusive communities on campus. To find out more about HSSO visit their [Connect page](#).

Recommended Reads

- Brandeis Asian American Students Association has created "Recommended Readings: Anti-Asian Racism and Black-Asian Solidarities. Check of their recommended readings [here](#).
- Emi Koyama is a "social justice activist/writer/rogue intellectual". Check out their website [Eminism.org](#), where "Emi often writes and speaks out about feminism, sexual and domestic violence, sex work/trade and trafficking, queer and trans liberation, intersex and disability issues," and more.