



THE BRIEN CENTER

Diversity • Equity • Inclusion • Belonging

Your courage, our care.

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

WORLD HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

World Human Rights Day is celebrated annually on December 10th to commemorate the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. The UDHR is a landmark document that established fundamental human rights that everyone is entitled to, regardless of their status. People from different backgrounds and cultures come together to reflect on the progress made in advancing human rights and to commemorate human rights principles.

The theme for 2024 is "Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now".



INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

You can say "let's go for a walk" to a person who uses a wheelchair or write "have you heard the news?" to a person who is deaf. However, phrases such as "blind as a bat" or "deaf as a post" are unacceptable and should never be used, even in informal contexts.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

International Day of Persons with Disabilities is internationally observed on December 3rd and promoted by the United Nations since 1992. The day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. It was originally called "International Day of Disabled Persons" until 2007. Each year the day focuses on a different issue.

This year's theme, "Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future," underscores the importance of empowering individuals with disabilities to take the lead in shaping their own destinies and contributing to society.



CULTURAL HUMILITY PRESENTATION 12/6/24

Join nationally recognized DEI consultant and transgender advocate Justin Adkins at the Berkshire Innovation Center on 12/6/24 in Pittsfield, 10-12pm, for an engaging and participatory discussion about cultural humility. How do we live our lives as an ongoing process of compassionate self-awareness and inquiry? There has been so much stress on cultural competence in recent years; this workshop will be the next step towards cultural healing through humility.

<https://briencenter.ticketleap.com/deib-awareness-session-december-24/>

Questions/Comments/Suggestions for the DEI Committee?
Contact Us: DEI@briencenter.org