

# CLS DEI COMMITTEE

## MONTHLY EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

| 2023 | APRIL



April is Autism Acceptance Month! Rather than awareness, the Autistic Community is focusing on acceptance. The Autism Self Advocacy network says that, "ASAN believes that the goal of autism advocacy should be a world in which autistic people enjoy equal access, rights, and opportunities. We work to empower autistic people across the world to take control of our own lives and the future of our common community, and seek to organize the autistic community to ensure our voices are heard in the national conversation about us. Nothing About Us, Without Us!" CLS celebrates the many accomplishments of the Autistic community and individuals. Please see the Autism Self Advocacy Network for more information, <https://autisticadvocacy.org/> and <https://autismacceptance.com/>.



Passover is April 5–13. Passover is a Jewish holiday that is celebrated in the early spring. It lasts for eight days and celebrates the freeing of the Israelites from slavery. Some people refrain from eating leavened grain. Seder is celebrated for the first two nights of Passover.

"The focal points of the Seder are:

Eating matzah.

Eating bitter herbs—to commemorate the bitter slavery endured by the Israelites.

Drinking four cups of wine or grape juice—a royal drink to celebrate our newfound freedom.

The recitation of the Haggadah, a liturgy that describes in detail the story of the Exodus from Egypt. The Haggadah is the fulfillment of the biblical obligation to recount to our children the story of the Exodus on the night of Passover. It begins with a child asking the traditional "Four

Questions."

[https://www.chabad.org/holidays/passover/pesach\\_cdo/aid/871715/jewish/What-Is-Passover-Pesach.htm](https://www.chabad.org/holidays/passover/pesach_cdo/aid/871715/jewish/What-Is-Passover-Pesach.htm)



National ASL Day is celebrated on April 15th. On April 15, 1817, the first lasting school for the deaf in the United States opened. Students gathered there over the years and at subsequent deaf schools across our nation. The children intermingled Native American Signs, French Sign Language, and Martha's Vineyard Sign Language. This process brought forth modern American Sign Language.  
[http://www.aslday.org/?page\\_id=2](http://www.aslday.org/?page_id=2)

Earth Day was started in 1970 and is dedicated to ensuring that environmental concerns are brought to the public's attention. Today over 190 countries recognize it. For ideas on how to celebrate Earth Day 2023 please see,  
<https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023/>.





April 26th is Administrative Professionals Day. CLS thanks our many administrative professionals who are working to make the world a better place! CLS would not be the same without you!