

ATN NEWSLETTER

Let's get cyclical!



DATES OF NOTE FOR DECEMBER

November 25th to December 10th - 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence
November 30th to December 24th - Advent
December 1st - World AIDs Day, Gita Jayanti
December 1st to 7th - Indigenous AIDs Awareness Week
December 2nd - UN International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
December 3rd - International Day of Persons with Disabilities
December 5th - Krampusnacht
December 6th - National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, Saint Nicholas Day
December 8th - Bodhi Day (Rohatsu), Panromantic and Pansexual Pride Day, Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 10th - Human Rights Day
December 12th - Day of the Virgin Guadalupe/Our Lady Guadalupe Feast Day
December 13th to 21st - Festival de Santo Tomás
December 13th - St. Lucia Day
December 14th to December 22nd - Chanukah/Hanukkah
December 15th - Anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Final Report
December 16th to December 24th - Los Posadas, Simbang Gabi
December 16th - Dhanu Sankranti
December 17th to 23rd - Saturnalia
December 18th - International Migrants Day, Arabic Language Day
December 21st to January 1st 2026 - Yule
December 21st to 25th - Pancha Ganapati
December 21st - Winter Solstice, Shab-e Yalda, Dongzhi Festival, Brumalia, Dongji
December 22nd - Toji
December 24th to January 7th 2026 - Qúviasukvík ᖃᐱᐱᐱᖅᐱᖅ
December 25th - Christmas Day, Feast of the Nativity
December 26th to January 1st 2026 - Kwanzaa
December 26th - St. Stephen's Feast
December 31st - Ōmisoka/ Ōtsugomori

HOW SEASONAL LEARNING BRINGS COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

From the desks of the Anti-Racist Teachers' Network:

As we approach the end of the year, it's important to take a moment to pause and reflect on the ebb and flow of events we've moved through. The naturally occurring cyclical nature of the year provides key moments for contemplation of how things are progressing and recharging for the next segment. Within many communities around the world, the seasons also allow for collective celebration and reflection.

For this month's issue, we wanted to take a pause and provide some resources around the naturally occurring solstices and equinoxes that take place within our hemisphere, but move away from just a scientific exploration. With the guides, books and other resources provided, it is important for us to note that this is not an exhaustive list of everything available or every community that engages in celebrations around nature's rhythms. We hope this month's issue acts as a jumping off board for you and your community spaces to begin engaging in seasonal based learning and celebrations that help to rejuvenate your spirits along every step of the way.

OUR MONTHLY BOOK RECCS

From the ATN Resource Bank!

K to 4 - **SkySisters** by Jan Bourdeau Waboose, **Mouse Celebrates the Winter Solstice** by Terri Mack, **Weiwei's Winter Solstice: A Dongzhi Story** by Michelle Jing Chan, **The Wheel of the Year: An Illustrated Guide to Nature's Rhythms** by Fiona Cook, **Can You Hear the Plants Speak?** by Nicholas Hummingbird, **Solstice: Around the World on the Longest, Shortest Day** by Jen Breach, **My Wheel of the Year: A Celebration of Nature's Magic** by Nikki Van De Car

5 to 9 - **Feathers** by Jacqueline Woodson, **Root Magic** by Eden Royce, **Eagle Drums** by Nasuğraq Rainey Hopson, **The Invincible Summer of Juniper Jones** by Daven McQueen

10 to 12 - **The Winter Garden** by Alexandra Bell, **What the Fireflies Knew** by Kai Harris, **Call Forth a Fox** by Markelle Grabo

For Teachers - **Cacophony of Bone: The Circle of a Year** by Kerri Ní Dochartaigh, **Earthly Bodies: Embracing Animal Nature** by Vanessa Chakour

COOL SEASONAL STUFF!

WINTER SOLSTICE

- **Edge of the Bush** provides an [Ojibwe Seasonal Pedagogy](#) for all seasons
- **CBC** has a video presenting the [Winter Solstice from a Cree Perspective](#)
- **PBS** has an All About The Holidays on [The Solstices](#)
- **Westport Library** has developed [a LibGuide](#) focusing on Historical & Cultural Significance of the Winter Solstice for different communities
- **Sierra Club BC** has a curriculum for [the Winter Solstice](#) for Grades K-3
- **The Centre for Racial Justice in Education** has created [A Racial Justice Guide to the Winter Holiday Season](#)
- **CBC** has a news interactive around the [Legends of the Northern Lights](#)

SPRING EQUINOX

- **Sierra Club BC** has a curriculum for [the Spring Equinox](#) for Grades K-3
- **Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU)** shares [an Indigenous Perspective on planting seeds](#) during the Spring Equinox
- **The ATA** has [a LibGuide](#) on the Spring Equinox
- Watch the **National Film Board's** [Nonoose Anishinabe Ishichekewin Ka Kanawentank](#)
- **Muskrat Magazine** outlines different [Indigenous Perspectives on Spring Equinox](#)

SUMMER SOLSTICE

- Explore [Inti Raymi](#)
- **The ATA** has [a LibGuide](#) on the Summer Solstice
- **The Government of Canada's** [Celebrating Indigenous Peoples In Canada](#) activity book has activities related to Summer Solstice

FALL EQUINOX

- **KAIROS Canada** has a [Honouring the Fall Equinox](#) guide
- **The Glenbow Museum** provides a [Collections Feature: Autumn Equinox](#)



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