July 2023: International Zine Month

What is International Zine Month?
International Zine Month is celebrated in July around the world as a way of promoting independent publishing businesses. They often publish for the sake of education and giving a platform to lesser-known writers, without the intent of minting profit. Zines also keep the library culture thriving and are closely connected to several cultural movements spanning everything from science fiction, the riot grrrl movement of the 1990s, and the efforts of BIPOC and those in the LGBTQ+ community, tackling large-scale personal and political matters in small circulations. They are also growing in popularity thanks to zines going online and some even releasing audio formats.

Graphics/Logo
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Sample Social Media Posts

Sample Hashtags:
#InternationalZineMonth
#Zines
#PAForward
#BasicLiteracy

Call to Action:
During International Zine Month in July, there are a couple of activities you can try to become more familiar with Zine culture:

- Share recommendations of your favorite zines with those that are eager to learn more about the genre.
- Reach out to a zine writer whom you enjoy reading on social media to express your fondness for their work.
- Read, buy, and share zines from other countries – the zine world is extremely vast and versatile.

Content for Newsletters/Websites
International Zine Month was started in 2009 by Alex Wrekk, creator of Brainscan Zine. Studies conducted by Barnard College Zine Library in New York City show that there are at least 138 libraries in the United States that have an extensive collection of zines. Zines and independently published titles appeal to younger people and draw crowds to the libraries. Zines have been around for almost a hundred years now! The first science fiction zine was published in 1930 and it was titled “The Comet.”

Zines allow the disenfranchised populations to bring out their stories and circulate them widely. They have been an important part of many socio-political movements. During July, zine lovers come together to create and share zines. It’s a great way to learn something new and explore your own creative side. Zines also encourage us to read and become better-informed people. They are a great way to know more about communities that are often ignored by mainstream publications.

Additional Resources

- https://nationaltoday.com/international-zine-month/
- https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2019/07/02/by-the-numbers-international-zine-month/
July 1: International Cooperative Day

What is International Cooperative Day?

International Cooperative Day is an annual celebration of the cooperative movement observed on the first Saturday in July since 1923 by the International Cooperative Alliance. 2023’s Celebration is the 101st International Cooperative Day, the 29th International Day of Cooperatives recognized by the United Nations.

Graphics/Logo

Sample Social Media Posts

Sample Hashtags:
#CoopsDay
#InternationalCooperativeDay
#PAForward
#FinancialLiteracy

Call to Action:
Cooperatives are enterprises based on ethics, values, and principles. Through self-help and empowerment, reinvesting in their communities, and concern for the well-being of people and the world in which we live, cooperatives nurture a long-term vision for sustainable economic growth, social development, and environmental responsibility. At least 12% of people on Earth are a cooperator of any of the 3 million cooperatives on Earth. Cooperatives provide jobs or work opportunities to 10% of the employed population, and the three hundred largest cooperatives generate $2,146 billion in turnover while providing the services and infrastructure society needs to thrive. (source: World Cooperative Monitor).

Content for Newsletters/Websites
The aim of #CoopsDay is to increase awareness of cooperatives and promote the movement’s ideas of international solidarity, economic efficiency, equality, and world peace. Through #CoopsDay, local, national, and global policymakers, civil society organizations, and the public, in general, can learn about the contribution of cooperatives to a secure future for all.

Additional Resources

- https://www.ica.coop/
July 7: World Chocolate Day

What is World Chocolate Day?
Every year on July 7th, World Chocolate Day allows chocolate lovers around the world to indulge in their favorite treat without any guilt. The day also celebrates all kinds of goodies made from chocolate, including chocolate milk, hot chocolate, chocolate candy bars, chocolate cake, brownies, or anything covered in chocolate.

Graphics/Logo
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Sample Social Media Posts

Sample Hashtags:
#WorldChocolateDay
#PAForward
#BasicLiteracy

Call to Action:
We don’t need to tell you what to do to celebrate this day, do we? Eat Chocolate! Chocolate is certainly of the world’s favorite flavors, if not the most loved taste across 7 continents. Often referred to as the magic bean, it definitely deserves to be celebrated. Everyone loves it, and the recipes that come with it are nothing less than amazing! What is your favorite chocolate candy or recipe?

Content for Newsletters/Websites
Although some would love to celebrate this day every day, #WorldChocolateDay gives you the perfect opportunity to eat your favorites in ample portions. Chocolate can enhance and help to create the most luxurious desserts and can even be enjoyed and indulged on its own. Why not check out some of the great chocolate cookbooks and get yourself in the chocolate day spirit, baking and creating some wonderful chocolatey creations? Or read some novels featuring chocolate on this day. We also have many picture books in the Children’s Area about this delicious treat!

Additional Resources

- https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/chocolate-day/
- https://nationaldaycalendar.com/world-chocolate-day/
July 8: Video Game Day

What is Video Game Day?
Video Game Day celebrates the wonderful world of video games on July 8. Gamers post about it on social media and host events around the country to celebrate the day.

Video Game Day Graphic
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Sample Social Media Posts

Sample Hashtags:
#PAForward
#InformationLiteracy
#VideoGameDay
#Gaming

Call to Action:
Happy Video Game Day! Video games are fun for all ages, dating back to Pong. What was your favorite video game growing up?

Celebrate Video Game Day with us at [Library]. Check out [Collection] or join us for [Program].

Content for Newsletter/Websites:
Video Game Day celebrates the wonderful world of video games on July 8. From classics like Pong and Mario Brothers to story driven video games like Zelda and The Last of Us, there’s a video game for every gamer! Some ways to celebrate Video Game Day include a gaming marathon with friends and visiting a local arcade.

Drop by the Library and celebrate with us by checking out [Collection] or signing up for [Program]. Video Games are more popular than ever – and they’re not just for kids!

Additional Resources

- https://nationaltoday.com/video-game-day/
- https://www.history.com/topics/inventions/history-of-video-games
July 20: Pennsylvania Day

What is Pennsylvania Day?
Pennsylvania Day celebrates PA being the second state to join the Union!

Pennsylvania Day Graphic
https://www.canva.com/design/DAFfQ4fT-6U/DR1SOGsWsQn49qF8dvSJEw/edit?utm_content=DAFfQ4fT-6U&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton

Sample Social Media Posts

Sample Hashtags:
#Pennsylvania
#PennsylvaniaDay
#PAFoward
#CivilandSocialLiteracy

Call to Action:
It’s Pennsylvania Day! Share your love of the Keystone State by telling us your favorite spots to visit.

Did you know Pennsylvania was the second state to join the Union? At [Library], we’re celebrating our local history by highlighting [Collection] or [Resource] or [Upcoming Program].

Content for Newsletter/Webites:
Did you know Pennsylvania was the second state to join the Union? [Library] is celebrating Pennsylvania Day and highlighting our local history through our [collection or upcoming program].

Pennsylvania is a beautiful state with a rich history, and we hope these resources help you celebrate the wonder of our great state.

Additional Resources

- https://www.britannica.com/place/Pennsylvania-state/History
- https://explorepahistory.com/stories.php
July 24: Self-Care Day

What is Self-Care Day?

In 2011, the International Self-Care Foundation (ISF) established International Self-Care Day to raise awareness about the importance of self-care in overall health and wellness. International Self-Care Day is celebrated each year on July 24 to recognize the many benefits of self-care.

Self-Care Day Graphic

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Sample Social Media Posts

Sample Hashtags:
#PAForward
#HealthLiteracy
#SelfCare
#Wellness

Call to Action:
Happy Self-Care Day! How do you practice self-care? Take a moment today to care for your wellbeing. Try one of these suggestions or choose one of your own!

July 24 is International Self-Care Day. The Library has a great selection of books to support your wellness journey. Check out one of these books today!

Content for Newsletter/Websites:

In 2011, the International Self-Care Foundation (ISF) established International Self-Care Day to raise awareness about the importance of self-care in overall health and wellness. International Self-Care Day is celebrated each year on July 24 to recognize the many benefits of self-care.

The Library has a great selection of books to support your wellness journey. Developing self-care habits nurtures your mind, body, and soul. Check out one of these books today! Patrons are also invited to join us for [program].

Additional Resources

• https://isfglobal.org/international-self-care-day/
• https://www.selfcarefederation.org/international-self-care-day-page