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National Tie Month: While “business casual” has made ties less common, this is still the month to celebrate the necktie with a sartorial exhibit or a hands-on program on [necktie knots](#).

In Latin, “decem” means 10; so why is December the 12th month? It was named when it was the 10th month of the Roman calendar.

On this day in 1955, [Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat](#). Commemorate that defiance with a display on the American Civil Rights movement.

2

Novelist [Ann Patchett](#) was born on this day in 1963. Make an author bio shelf talker to place near her books in your fiction section.

3

The first official Laurel and Hardy film, [Putting Pants on Philip](#), was released on this day in 1927. Highlight your classic film DVDs with some special signage.

4

On this day in 1965, the Grateful Dead first performed under that name. Host an [open mic night](#) inspired by their “jam band” style, and encourage musicians to try fresh, on-the-fly groupings.

5

Repeal Day
The 21st Amendment ended Prohibition on this day in 1933. Create a display of yummy cocktail recipe books [and liquor-themed novels](#) and films.

6

It's **National Pawnbrokers Day**, which pawnbrokers celebrate by sponsoring [Musical Instrument Gift Day](#) and donating instruments to organizations in need. Invite a local pawnbroker to give an educational presentation about their business.

7

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
“A date which will live in infamy.”
– President Franklin D. Roosevelt

8

National Brownie Day
If you can't provide snacks for the patrons today, at least make sure there are brownies in the staff room!

9

On this day in 1979, the eradication of smallpox was certified. Highlight a selection of [epidemiology titles](#) on your library's social media.

10

On this day in 1936, King Edward VIII signed the Instrument of Abdication to pass succession to his brother, King George VI. Build a “royal scandals” display featuring fiction and history titles.

11

Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Bill Wilson took his last drink on this day in 1934. Refill the library's display of alcoholism and local treatment resources, and request fresh supplies where necessary.

12

[Frank Sinatra](#) was born on this day in 1915. Partner with a local teacher for a dance lesson event featuring all of Sinatra's best.

13

The Battle of Fredericksburg was fought December 11–15, 1862. Invite a Civil War reenactor to give a talk or set up a display this week.

14

Author [Shirley Jackson](#) was born on this day in 1916. Feature a selection of short stories and anthologies in her honor.

15

National Lemon Cupcake Day
Share this mouth-watering [recipe!](#)



16

National Chocolate-Covered Anything Day
Don't miss the chance to celebrate sweet treats! Open a fun poll about favorite flavors to see how chocolate lovers stack up to the fruit fanatics.

17

Host a comedy film festival featuring today's birthday boy, Canadian actor [Eugene Levy](#), born in 1946.

18

The first NFL playoff game was held on this day in 1932 as a tie-breaker between the Chicago Bears and the Portsmouth Spartans for the National Football League season's final standings. Make it a football-themed day in your library with staff in fanwear and displays featuring gridiron favorites.

19

The Hollywood blockbuster [Titanic](#) hit screens on this day in 1997. It later won 11 Academy Awards and became one of the highest-grossing movies in history.

20

Clyde Stubblefield recorded [“The Funky Drummer”](#) with James Brown on this day in 1969. Feature both your R&B and hip-hop music collections today.

21

Crossword Puzzle Day
The first crossword puzzle was published on this day in 1913. Set out a stack of free puzzles as a passive program, or host a meetup for enthusiasts.

22

On this day in 1849, novelist [Fyodor Dostoyevsky](#) thought he was about to die before a Russian firing squad but was granted a last-minute reprieve. Create a display featuring his novels and other Russian literature.

23

Feature [aerospace books and films](#) in honor of the experimental aircraft Voyager, which landed in 1986.

24

[Poison](#) topped the Billboard Hot 100 on this day in 1988. Schedule an 80s glam rock party with music and costumes.

25

Grab an aloha shirt and find your island groove in honor of [Jimmy Buffett](#), who was born on this day in 1946.

26

On this day in 1871, [W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan's](#) first collaboration opened at the Gaiety Theatre. Feature your musical theater DVDs and soundtracks, plus other pop culture G&S touchstones.

27

Make Cut Out Snowflakes Day
You're never too old for a good snowflake session, and it's the perfect day for a make-and-take craft table, made simple with copy paper, scissors and trash cans (and the vacuum, later).

28

Today is the fourth day referred to in “The Twelve Days of Christmas” (four calling birds). There are a lot of birds in this ubiquitous song, so maybe it's a good time for an avian display.

29

US soldiers killed more than 250 Lakota near Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota on this day in 1890, [a tragic history](#) commemorated in story, song and film.

DECEMBER

Adult Engagement Calendar