



Caribbean-American For Community Involvement in Florida, Inc.

Our mission is to enhance, maintain and sustain the quality of life for the community consistent with the culture and traditions of our diverse ancestral heritage.

OCTOBER

2024

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

President .....Dennis Wright  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.....Genieve White  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President ..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
Treasurer.....Diana Bishop-McIntosh  
Recording Secretary..... Doreen Baker  
Corresponding Secretary.....Paul Baker

### DIRECTORS

Carolyn Hmara  
Norma Smith-Hill  
Charlesworth "Barclay" Varlack

## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Thalia White Lauren \* Lawrence Logan Shirley Morrison \* Junette Powell  
Max Smith \* Barbara Walker

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Alliance .....Genieve White  
Annual Friendship Ball .....Dennis Wright  
Budget.....Radcliffe Brown  
Bylaws..... Barbara Walker  
CAFCI Home.....Radcliffe Browns  
Cultural .....Jannette Sharpe-Paul  
Finance .....Genieve White  
Grants ..... Shirley Morrison  
Historian/Protocol..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
Membership..... Macaela Ferguson  
Newsletter ..... Junette Powell  
..... & Thalia White Lauren  
Parliamentarian .....Nadine White-Boyd  
Picnic.....Yvonne Wright  
Program..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
Relay for Life..... Nova Brown  
Student Assistance Fund ..... Junette Powell  
..... & Nadine White-Boyd  
Sunshine .....Paul Baker  
Toys for Tots .....Lauriston Simms  
Ferrin Memorial Scholarship Fund .....  
.....Genieve White  
Website.....Radcliffe Brown  
Youth ..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis

## CONTACT US

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Community Involvement  
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[www.facebook.com/cafcipc](https://www.facebook.com/cafcipc)

General Membership Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of month  
Board Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs. of month

See back page for calendar of events.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

**ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL:** Our 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Friendship Ball, held on September 28<sup>th</sup>, was a night to celebrate the bonds that bring us together. It was an evening of laughter, dancing and cherished memories. This was indeed a special event dedicated to celebrating the strong connections we share as a community. It was an inclusive atmosphere and a welcoming space for everyone to celebrate and connect. The entertainment was varied and enjoyable and our guests were impressed with the professionalism and seamless delivery of our program.

Special thanks to the Ball and Journal Committee for their hard work and dedication in putting on a successful and entertaining program. The team consisted of Cindy Beckles, Barrington Berry, Nova Brown, Radcliffe Brown, Audrey Campbell, Charmaine Henry, Thalia White Lauren, Alvin Nembhard, Jennifer Powell, Junette Powell, Audrey Smith, Hildreth Stoddart-Brown, Barbara Walker, Genieve White, Nadine White-Boyd and Dennis Wright. Look out for full coverage and pictures of the Ball in the November newsletter.

**INTERNATIONAL GAMES NIGHT:** Our annual International Games night will be held immediately following our General Membership meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Please invite your friends and family to come out as we share a delectable array of cultural dishes and beverages. Bring your favorite games, be it a blast from the past or an island classic.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION:** Election for vacant seats on the CAFCI board will be held during our December General Membership meeting. Please let me know if you are interested in chairing the Nominating Committee or would like to be considered for a Director of the Board position.

On behalf of the board of directors, we extend our condolences to the family of the late Mayor Fred Pinto, former president and lifetime member of CAFCI. Our heart goes out to his wife and children.

*Continued on page 3*

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**OCTOBER 16 - 31**

Charmaine Henry	16
Inez McCallum	20
Britt Deviney	23
Babbette Bodden	26
Wayne Wilks	26
Doreen Baker	28

**NOVEMBER 1 - 15**

Eaton Richardson	04
Dwayne Clarke	06
Nova Brown	07
Lloyd Swaby	08
Chioma R. Deere	10
Myrna Adams	11
Pamela Fraser	12

*If you are a CAFCI member and notice that your birthday or the birthday of another member has not been acknowledged, please send an email to CAFCI (cafcibellsouth.net) and we will update the birthday list. We apologize for any oversight.*

**GET WELL WISHES TO:**

Lawrence Logan

**CONDOLENCES TO:**

Danielle Pinto on the loss of her husband,  
CAFCI Member Fred

Junette and Neil Powell on the loss of  
his stepmother, Rosa Powell

Norma and Tom Thornhill  
on the loss of her cousin, Doslyn Knight

Genieve White, Nadine White-Boyd and  
Thalia and Timothy Lauren on the loss of  
their cousin, Shauna Kerr-Vaz

**Please Let Us Know...**

*We want our members to know that we, the Board and Sunshine Committee, are always here to support you. Please contact (or ask someone else to contact) one of our Sunshine Committee members if:*

- you are ill or know of any CAFCI member who is ill or
- you have or know of a close family member of a CAFCI member who is ill or
- you have, or know of a CAFCI member who has, lost a family member.

*Remember, if we are not notified, we cannot share it in the Newsletter or offer our support.*

Paul Baker, Chair.....561.784.0067  
Samuel Baxter.....561.358.3737  
Elet Cyris.....561.791.9087

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued*

Fred was a tried-and-true CAFCI-an; a vigorous supporter of our programs; a community leader who was ever present at our events; a patron who knew that visibility mattered, that respect for an organization included showing up consistently and not merely when it was convenient; a political leader who understood the importance of being responsive to our community's needs, of supporting our youth and academic scholars, and offering his input as a member whenever and wherever he thought it could be helpful.

We will miss hearing Fred's laughter and seeing his warm, generous face at our events. We will miss him striding across the stage to shake hands with our scholarship students and encourage them to continue to be bold and to strive. There will be an absence and we will feel it. We will miss having him here.

The CAFCI family salutes you, Fred. It is hard to say goodbye. We wish you farewell on your journey and thank you for having been a part of the CAFCI family.

With warm regards,



Dennis Wright

## OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING CANCELLED

### LET'S DO BUSINESS

in Royal Palm Beach • Wellington  
Western West Palm Beach (up to Vista Parkway)  
*Let's Support Businesses in Our Community.*

PROSPECT PARK COUNSELING GROUP  
Nakeisha Whitfield, LCSW  
855.282.3355  
[info@pparkcounseling.com](mailto:info@pparkcounseling.com)  
[pparkcounseling.com](http://pparkcounseling.com)

*If you're ready to work towards the life you've always wanted, I'm ready when you are. Contact me today and let's get to work!*

~~~~~  
*If you would like to recommend a business to be featured in the "Let's Do Business" section in our Newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Committee at: [junettep56@gmail.com](mailto:junettep56@gmail.com) or [thaliaec@gmail.com](mailto:thaliaec@gmail.com) so that we can share it with our members.*



## ELECTION DAY

**Tuesday, November 5, 2024.**

**EARLY VOTING** for the November 5<sup>th</sup> General Election will be available from October 21<sup>st</sup> through November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7 am to 7 pm at select locations.

**VOTE-BY-MAIL** ballots can be returned at any early voting location during early voting hours, by mail using pre-paid postage, or to one of our four offices during office hours.

For more information and early voting locations:

<https://www.votepalmbeach.gov/voters/earlyvoting>

## ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES

Verify your assigned election day polling place at:

<https://www.votepalmbeach.gov/Voters/Precinct-Finder>

## CHECK YOUR STATUS

<https://www.votepalmbeach.gov/Voters/My-Status>

## FOR ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT VOTING IN PALM BEACH COUNTY

<https://www.votepalmbeach.gov/>



**CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** in Florida, Inc.

# 33rd Annual *Friendship Ball*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024**

**Celebrating 35 Years Strong in Community Involvement**

## *Thank You* **Sponsors**

**BODDEN & BENNETT LAW GROUP**

**HI-CLASS PROMOTIONS OF WAVS RADIO**

**LEWIS LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.**

**ROYAL INN HOTEL & RESORT**

**S.A. NELSON & ASSOCIATES**

**STEVE HIGGINS PRODUCTIONS**

**SUPA JAMZ RADIO**

## *Advertisers & Donors*

**Amber Cove, Inc.,  
Residential Assisted Living Facility  
B & B Realty and Property Management,  
Cedric Brown and Hildreth Stoddart-Brown  
Cynthia Beckles, MBA, DTM  
Baird Private Wealth Management,  
Larry E. Bernstein, CFP®  
Caribbean-American Cultural Group  
Clear Vue Laser Eye  
Clerk & Comptroller, Palm Beach County  
Complete Health Care for Women  
Port Commissioner Varisa Dass  
Duffy's Sports Grill  
Durrant Air Conditioning, Inc.  
Myron Edwards  
Family Care Nurses Registry, LLC /  
Family Care Training Center  
Golden Krust  
Brian I. Haft, M.D.**

**Dawn Blake Haynes, RN BSN MS  
Hilton Palm Beach Airport  
Home Depot - Royal Palm Beach  
Hook Fish and Chicken  
Keller Williams Realty, Marjorie Mendez, PA  
Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts  
Rachell Litt,  
Candidate for State House District 94  
LPT Realty, Norma Smith-Hill  
Miami Federal Credit Union  
Palms West Funeral Home & Crematory  
Port of Palm Beach - Import, Export  
Prospect Park Counseling Group  
Riviera Dental, Dr. Karen C. Reid  
Schilling Advisors, Barry Martin  
Tru Auto Works  
Robert Vaughan  
Wash and Wax Pros  
Whole Foods Market - Wellington**

*Your generous support enables CAFCI to continue our outreach programs and service to the community.  
Thanks also to the Ball Committee for your dedication and commitment to the success of the CAFCI Ball.  
And to Ball attendees, kudos to you all!!!*

*To view CAFCI 2024 Annual Friendship Ball journal,  
visit our website at [cafciabc.org](http://cafciabc.org) and click on the Friendship Ball image.*

## OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE

*CAFCI and the Student Assistance Fund (SAF) Committee would be honored to recognize the accomplishments of its members and/or their relatives. Please share your good news with us and we will publish it as space permits.*

### STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND

*EMPOWERING YOUTH & INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE*

For more information, visit the Student Assistance Program section on CAFCI's website at <https://www.cafcipc.org/studentassistanceprogram> or contact Nadine White-Boyd at 561.351.6895 or Junette Powell at 561.346.2353.

The 2025 Student Assistance Fund Award application is accessible at <https://www.cafcipc.org/student-assistance>. The application deadline is Friday, February 28, 2025.

The Student Assistance Fund Committee thanks everyone who donated to the Fund. See the 2024 "Thank You flyer" which is included in this newsletter and posted on CAFCI's website at <https://www.cafcipc.org/studentassistanceprogram>. If you missed the 2024 awards ceremony, the video with congratulatory messages from past recipients, pictures from the awards ceremony as well as a recording, can be viewed on CAFCI's website <https://www.cafcipc.org/studentassistanceprogram>.

**ONGOING DONATION:** To donate to the Student Assistance Fund and/or sponsor an award recipient, please contact Nadine White-Boyd at 561.351.6895; Junette Powell at 561.346.2353; or visit CAFCI's website at <https://www.cafcipc.org/donation-center> and select the Student Assistance option. Every donation—large or small—will help CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee reach its fundraising goal. So please, donate. If you cannot donate, do share the fundraiser link to help spread the word with family, friends, and social media contacts. There is no greater reward for your donation than seeing the proud and smiling faces of the student winners and knowing that your donation will help support them as they attend college and become the future community leaders that we need.

#### CAFCI'S VALUES STATEMENT:

*Caribbean-American for Community Involvement acknowledges and honors the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals and pledges itself to creating and maintaining an environment that respects diverse traditions, heritages, and experiences. We believe in giving a voice to all people and respecting all people regardless of ethnicity or socioeconomic background. We support the participation in and promotion of events that lead to respect and mutual understanding among the various cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups in our community. We believe in promoting honesty and integrity by being transparent in all our dealings, having fun and fellowship with each other while volunteering and caring for the young and elderly and helping those in need.*

*DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views and opinions of CAFCI's members and/or the Newsletter Committee members.*

*CAFCI MEMBERS... If you would like to share the accomplishments of a close relative (e.g., child, grandchild, niece and/or nephew) with your CAFCI Family in the "Our Children Are Our Future" section of the NEWS, please provide the information to Paul Baker (email: [ujama4@aol.com](mailto:ujama4@aol.com) or phone 561.784.0067). If there is any other information you would like included in the NEWS, please submit the information to Junette Powell ([junettep56@gmail.com](mailto:junettep56@gmail.com)).*

*IMPORTANT: Include "CAFCI NEWS" in the subject line when sending e-mails. Inclusion of articles submitted will be at the discretion of the Newsletter Committee and based on space availability.*

# CAFCI SCOUTS ★ TROOP 111



Greetings CAFCI!

My name is Landon Girard and I had the honor of recently being elected as the Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 111. I have been a part of Troop 111 since the Spring of 2020, having crossed over from Pack 120 (Now Pack 111). In our most recent Court of Honor ceremony, many scouts took their next steps in scouting, earning their next rank(s) and an abundance of merit badges and awards. Eagle Scouts Jackson Eubanks, Jackson Doeren, Assistant Scoutmasters Mr. Greg Eubanks, and Mrs. Bonnie Doeren were awarded the prestigious Grand Slam of National High Adventures Award, which they earned by attending all four national high adventure camps that scouting offers. These adventures require months of physical training to build strength and endurance. The journeys take Scouts and adult leaders across America, West to New Mexico, North to Minnesota, Northeast to West Virginia and South to the Keys.



Grand Slam High Adventure Award Recipients: Mrs. Bonnie Doeren, Jackson Eubanks, Mr. Greg Eubanks, Jackson Doeren



Scoutmaster Ryan McNally, SPL Landon Girard

Coming up quickly in my term as Senior Patrol Leader, we have a campout in October where we plan to enjoy our time canoeing at Kings Landing. We also have a great opportunity for some scouts to join the Order of the Arrow (OA) in our annual OA elections. The OA is the National Honor Society of Scouting that provides even more leadership opportunities and an amazing time with Scouts from other Troops.

I would like to thank CAFCI for the opportunity to share our troop's activities and hope that this fall continues to be an amazing time for growth and advancement.

Landon Girard  
Senior Patrol Leader



To apply for membership in BSA Troop 111 or to volunteer for scouting, visit <https://my.scouting.org/VES/OnlineReg/1.0.0/?tu=UF-MB-085taa0111>

*"On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty, to God and my country, and to obey the Scout Law, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." - Scout Oath*

*"A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." - Scout Law*

## Troop 111

- Make friends and lasting memories
- Gain leadership skills
- Learn life skills
- Monthly camping adventures

Boys and Girls Ages: 10-17

VISIT OR JOIN NOW

[troop111rpb@gmail.com](mailto:troop111rpb@gmail.com)



## WAYS TO SUPPORT CAFCI . . . WE NEED YOU!!!

CAFCI website: <https://www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center>

GoFundMe: Visit <https://gofund.me/7319cf9a> • Please share with your friends and family.

### HAVE YOU JOINED OR RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO CAFCI???

2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES (Single - \$80 • Couple - \$140)

Submit your membership dues online at: [https://www.cafcipbc.org/membership-dues\\_OR](https://www.cafcipbc.org/membership-dues_OR)

Mail to: CAFCI

Attention: Lawrence Logan,

675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, Suite #134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

# A For C.A.F.C.I.



In August we were presented with an opportunity to purchase a condo unit. Unfortunately, we were unable to close the deal due to a lack of available funds or a letter of commitment for a mortgage. This incident magnifies the need for our organization to be able to demonstrate a more significant and consistent stream of income, if we are to obtain a commitment letter.

As such, be on the lookout for a call-for-assistance as we enter another phase in our efforts to purchase a Home of Our Own. One option we are considering: setting up a for-profit business as a means for generating steady income.

*Participation in the **Home of Our Own** project is available through the Buy-A-Brick program. Visit the web page at [www.cafcipbc.org](http://www.cafcipbc.org) and click on the “Home of Our Own” tab or call Radcliffe “Woody” Brown at 561.791.3344 for more information. We have made it easier to take part in the program by facilitating monthly payments to buy a brick. Monthly payments of \$50 for a \$1,000 brick and \$150 for a \$3,000 brick are available.*



Scan QR Code to Support  
CAFCI's Home Of Our Own

Despite the above setback the search for a property continues, with a primary focus on lease-to-own options, including the possibility of purchasing land or commercial condominiums. Another option being considered is jointly purchasing and sharing a property with a partner organization, thereby reducing the cost of acquisition.

If you have information about an available property, or about a potential investor (or investors) who may be able to help with funding, email [cafcipbc@bellsouth.net](mailto:cafcipbc@bellsouth.net), and copy [radcliffewoody@aol.com](mailto:radcliffewoody@aol.com), or call 561.790.4002 and leave a message.

Submitted by Radcliffe “Woody” Brown, CAFCI Home Of Our Own Chair

# SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

The first Black candidate for a major-party nomination for  
President of the United States of America



*2024 is a historic year. Fifty-two years ago, Shirley Chisholm, a Black woman of Barbadian background, was bold and audacious enough to run for the presidency of the United States of America. The first Black congresswoman, she was also the first woman to run for the Democratic*

*Party's presidential nomination, and the first Black candidate for the presidency to seek nomination by one of the two major parties. Her famous slogan "Unbought and unbosserd," was a reflection of her fighting spirit and fearlessness in the face of power.*

*When Chisholm announced her candidacy she said, "I am not the candidate of Black America, although I am Black and proud. I am not the candidate of the women's movement of this country, although I am a woman, and I am equally proud of that... I am the candidate of the people of America. And my presence before you now symbolizes a new era in American political history."*

*Fifty-two years later, a daughter of a Jamaican immigrant and an Indian immigrant, is running for the office of president of the United States of America. Shirley Chisholm would be proud. Fighting against the odds and the times, withstanding racist bigots who threatened her life, Chisholm persevered. Through that perseverance she forged a path that other women, and other Blacks, and People of Color, have now followed. We commend Ms. Chisholm, and we recognize her.*

*Born in the borough of Brooklyn, New York, in a Caribbean enclave, she went back and forth between Barbados and her Brooklyn community. Those communities formed her, instilling in her the confidence to see and know her worth, the grit to*

*withstand nearly insurmountable challenges, the fortitude and ambition to go where no one like her had gone before.*

*Having the courage to forge a path where previously none existed, to put one's self at the forefront of change, all while knowing that the risks will be extraordinary, was no small feat five decades ago, and it is no small feat now.*

*We look back in wonder when we think about the perilous times in which the congresswoman lived. When we envision the racial animus and threats of violence, we are stunned by her fearlessness. We know it was remarkable and uncommon, but not solitary. There were other leaders like her, willing to risk their lives and their safety to advance community.*

*Hidden in our communities and our schools today, there are still such leaders, needing to be guided, nurtured, mentored and supported. And it is because of that spirit of capability and possibility that CAFCI continues to support our students and their aspirations, because we know there are more Shirley Chisholms among them; because we don't want to have to wait another 52 years to make probable what Congresswoman Chisholm has made possible today.*



The inscription on Chisholm's mausoleum, including her campaign slogan, "Unbought and Unbossed"

By Max Smith



### OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

#### QUICK FACTS ABOUT BREAST CANCER

- About one in eight U.S. women and one in 726 U.S. men will develop breast cancer over the course of their lives.
- In 2024, an estimated 310,720 women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in the U.S. An estimated 56,500 people will be diagnosed with ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS), a non-invasive breast cancer.
- An estimated 42,250 women will lose their lives to stage IV or metastatic breast cancer in 2024.
- In 2024, there were over 4 million women living with a history of breast cancer in the US.
- About 9% of all new breast cancer cases are diagnosed in women 45 and under.
- Though Black women have a lower incidence of breast cancer than white women, Black women are 40% more likely to die of breast cancer.

These numbers remind us there is still urgent work to do – more than we can accomplish in just one month.

#### WHY Living Beyond Breast Cancer?

For over 30 years, Living Beyond Breast Cancer has been a trusted resource for people with breast cancer and their loved ones. We have provided information to and a community for more than a million people. Yet, we have so much more to do. When you support Living Beyond Breast Cancer, you make an immediate, positive difference in the lives of people affected by breast cancer.

Living Beyond Breast Cancer is one of the highest-ranking breast cancer organizations in the U. S.:

- For 19 consecutive years, LBBC has earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Four stars is the highest possible ranking for financial health and responsibility.
- Through strong financial management, we earned the Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid (formerly GuideStar).
- USA Today recommends LBBC as one of the top breast cancer charities for support services and education.
- We have been awarded three competitive CDC Cooperative Agreements in a row to serve young women with breast cancer.

Source: Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2024 | Living Beyond Breast Cancer (lbcc.org)

### COLUMBUS DAY – Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

Columbus Day is observed annually on the second Monday in October. Columbus Day 2024 is a day of remembrance and celebration that honors Christopher Columbus's expedition to the Americas. It recognizes the significance of his journey, which opened the door to European exploration and the eventual colonization of the Americas. Columbus Day provides an opportunity for communities to reflect on their cultural heritage and share the contributions of Italian-Americans and the broader immigrant experience.

While Columbus Day is celebrated in the United States, it is worth noting that its observance has evolved over time and is subject to debate and discussion regarding its historical context and impact on Indigenous communities.

<https://www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/columbus-day-in-the-usa-2024/>

### INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY – Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

Indigenous Peoples' Day is celebrated on the second Monday of October to honor the cultures and histories of the Native American people. The day is centered around reflecting on their tribal roots and the tragic stories that hurt but strengthened their communities.

The first seed of Indigenous Peoples' Day was planted at a U.N. international conference on discrimination in 1977. The first state to recognize the day was South Dakota in 1989. Berkeley, California, and Santa Cruz followed suit.

#### 5 Facts About Indigenous Peoples' Day

1. **Female warriors:** Native American women fought alongside men in battles, the most popular among them being the Buffalo Calf Road Woman of the Northern Cheyenne tribe.
2. **Popcorn:** The Indigenous Americans were the first to domesticate the strains of maize that produced popcorn thousands of years ago.
3. **Maria Tallchief:** The first Native American (and American) to dance at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and with the Paris Opera Ballet was Maria Tallchief.
4. **Hockey:** The Native American tribes of Foxes, Saux, and Assiniboine played a game called shinny, which is where hockey came from.
5. **The sequoia tree:** The sequoia tree is named after the revered Cherokee leader Sequoyah, who created an alphabet for his people.

<https://nationaltoday.com/indigenous-peoples-day/>

The month of October carries with it a vibrant tapestry of cultures and traditions as diverse as the people who celebrate them. Throughout this autumnal month, we embark on a global journey through a myriad of captivating holidays and celebrations. From the spooky festivities of Halloween in the Western world to the deeply meaningful observances in other regions, it's a time that underscores the significance of embracing and understanding diverse cultures. In this post, we'll delve into the different holidays celebrated around the world in October, exploring their significance and why being aware of such celebrations is crucial in a globalized setting, such as in [The Global College](#), where we celebrate great diversity among our staff and student body.

Examples of October holidays

### 1. Halloween

October ends with a spectacular burst of creativity and spookiness, as Halloween takes center stage in the Western world. Halloween, celebrated on October 31st, is a holiday where people of all ages dress up in costumes, carve pumpkins, and embark on a candy-collecting adventure known as trick-or-treating. While it's easy to think of Halloween as a day of fun and frights, the roots of this holiday run deep. Halloween finds its origins in the Celtic festival of Samhain. It marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. It was believed that on this night, the boundary between the living and the dead was blurred, and costumes and bonfires were used to ward off malevolent spirits. Understanding the historical and cultural context of Halloween adds a layer of depth and appreciation for this holiday.

### 2. Diwali – A Festival of Light and Hope

Halfway across the globe, in India and various other parts of the world, [Diwali](#), the Festival of Lights, shines brightly. Celebrated in October or November (this year it falls on November 12), Diwali is a time of immense significance for millions of people. It symbolizes the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. Homes are adorned with oil lamps, fireworks light up the sky, and families come together to exchange gifts and offer prayers to various deities. It's a time for family gatherings, symbolizing the triumph of knowledge and wisdom over ignorance.

Diwali not only showcases the rich cultural heritage of India but also the universal human desire for hope and the triumph of good over evil. By understanding the traditions and values behind Diwali, we gain insight into the timeless human pursuit of light and hope in the face of darkness.

### 3. Chuseok – A Harvest Festival in South Korea

In South Korea, [Chuseok](#) is a three-day harvest festival celebrated in October. Much like Thanksgiving in the United States, Chuseok is a time for families to come together and give thanks for the year's bountiful harvest. However, Chuseok also has deep cultural significance beyond its agricultural roots.

During Chuseok, families pay respects to their ancestors, share traditional Korean dishes, and engage in folk games. This holiday highlights the importance of family and tradition in Korean culture. It emphasizes the respect for one's heritage and the bonds that tie families together. Chuseok serves as a reminder that while the modern world may change, these timeless values remain essential to our shared human experience.

### 4. Oktoberfest – A Bavarian Extravaganza

Oktoberfest, celebrated in Munich, Germany, might not be a traditional holiday, but it's a global celebration of Bavarian culture. This world-famous beer festival, lasting for over two weeks from late September to early October, is an exciting cultural experience. It's an opportunity to immerse oneself in German hospitality, enjoy traditional music, savor delicious food, and, of course, taste an array of fine beers.

Beyond the festive atmosphere and overflowing beer steins, Oktoberfest celebrates the Bavarian way of life. It's an event that captures the essence of community, tradition, and togetherness, serving as a reminder that culture isn't just about ancient rituals but also the contemporary traditions that bind communities.

### Why Celebrating Different Holidays Matters

Celebrating holidays around the world and from different cultures is primarily fun! But there are also many other reasons why it is important to recognize them, learn about them and celebrate them. The list is endless, but these are just a few:

- **Fosters Cultural Understanding:** Embracing diverse holidays helps students and individuals understand different cultures, values, and beliefs. By acknowledging and participating in celebrations from around the world, we bridge the gap between communities and foster empathy and tolerance.
- **Enhances Global Competence:** In our increasingly interconnected world, having knowledge of various cultures and their traditions is essential. It equips individuals to interact effectively with people from diverse backgrounds, whether in business, diplomacy, or social interactions.
- **Encourages Respect and Inclusivity:** Recognizing and celebrating different holidays promotes an atmosphere of inclusivity and respect for all students, regardless of their cultural backgrounds. It helps create a welcoming environment where everyone feels valued, which is why we place such importance on providing a [global education](#) at TGC.
- **Broadens Horizons:** Exposure to different traditions opens up new perspectives and enriches our lives. It encourages individuals to learn and grow, creating well-rounded, global citizens. These experiences provide a more profound appreciation for the world's diversity and the interconnectedness of humanity.

The variety of holidays celebrated around the world in October is a testament to the beauty of cultural diversity. Halloween, Diwali, Chuseok, and Oktoberfest, among others, each carry their unique significance and traditions. By acknowledging and learning about these celebrations, we foster cultural understanding, respect, and inclusivity.

This awareness not only broadens our horizons but also prepares us for the interconnected world we live in, emphasizing the importance of celebrating and respecting our global neighbors' traditions. It is through these celebrations that we come to appreciate the rich tapestry of cultures that make our world so wonderfully diverse.

Source: [October holidays and cultural awareness – The Global College](#)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR CAFCI'S EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. Please check the current issue of the NEWS and the website.

### OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ CANCELLED

Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm; Hybrid

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ International Games Night

Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm; Hybrid

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ Toys for Tots | Christmas Potluck

## AROUND TOWN

- Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 9 pm | Kingston College Old Boys' Association presents their *23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL BIG PURPLE SESSION* at The Sport of Kings Theater Gulfstream Park, 901 S. Federal Hwy, Hallandale. Featuring Third World. For information, call 786.402.4965.
- Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12 noon – 10 pm | 6<sup>th</sup> Annual *TREASURE COAST CARIBBEAN FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL*; MidFlorida Event Center, Port St. Lucie, FL. For ticket prices and more information, go to [www.CACGPSL.com](http://www.CACGPSL.com).
- Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm | Free Spirit Outreach Inc. presents their *THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD CEREMONY* at Palm Beach Airport Hilton Hotel, Majestic Ballroom. For information, call 561.709.3193 or e-mail [info@fsocharity.org](mailto:info@fsocharity.org).
- Visit the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County at <https://www.palmbeachculture.com/events> for upcoming events and activities.
- Visit the Kravis Center at <https://www.kravis.org/> for upcoming events.
- Events in Wellington, go to <https://aroundwellington.com/>
- Events in West Palm Beach, go to <https://downtownwpb.com/explore/calendar/>

## 2024 HURRICANE SEASON

Eastern Pacific: May 15-November 30 | Atlantic: June 1-November 30 | Central Pacific: June 1-November 30

IF YOU HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY A HURRICANE AND NEED ASSISTANCE, HELP IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

- FEMA: [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) OR 1.800.621.3362
- File a claim if you are/ have been without power for over 24 hours.
- If there is a power outage and you lose all of your food, file a FEMA Claim for the FEMA Food Allowance.

### TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN YOUR SAFETY.

- Go to [Ready.gov/hurricanes](http://Ready.gov/hurricanes) and use FEMA's Guide for Alerts and Warnings to learn more about hurricane watches and warnings.
- Download the FEMA app to get more information about how to prepare.
- Check out this link to get all the information you need to ensure you're prepared this hurricane season: [floridadisaster.org/planprepare/florida-hurricane-guide](http://floridadisaster.org/planprepare/florida-hurricane-guide)

Source: <https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes#before>

*On behalf of CAFCI Board of Directors and the Newsletter Committee, we wish the best to CAFCI members, family, friends and all who were impacted by the recent hurricanes.*

CAFCI

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*Sometimes the hardest storms to get through  
are the ones your soul needs most.  
And once the storm is over,  
you won't remember how you made it through,  
how you managed to survive.  
But, survive, you did.  
And one thing is certain:  
When you come out of the storm,  
you won't be the same person who walked in.*

Haruki Murakami



*Prayers for all who have been  
impacted by the recent hurricanes.*