



# THE MUSIC SETTLEMENT

## *IDEA COMMITTEE*



# NATIONAL CIVILITY MONTH

AUGUST 2022



The Music Settlement  
OHIO CITY • UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

# WHY NATIONAL CIVILITY MONTH IS IMPORTANT



People being civil to other people is what makes the world a whole lot better and is the key focus of National Civility Month, which is held in August each year. This holiday was founded to help the world remember to treat others the way we wish to be treated ourselves — with kindness, empathy, and respect. This month follows a common theme like other similar awareness months centered around civility, including National Win With Civility Month, International Civility Awareness Month, and more.

- **Civility is a fundamental trait**

It is crucial to building a healthy society where each individual feels accepted and happy. Celebrating an entire month of civility awareness helps educate more people about this behavior and encourages us to behave in a manner befitting our society.

- **Incivility can destabilize the world**

More and more reports of uncivil behavior are emerging from around the world. A world where people are at each other's throats cannot be suitable for communal harmony and development. So, this makes National Civility Month very crucial to deter incivility.

- **Civility strengthens society**

Learning about civility through various awareness events and celebrations like these helps increase incidences of civil behavior in society, bringing the community towards a more positive and strong position.

# NATIONAL CIVILITY MONTH TIMELINE

**18th Century**

## **Rights for Everyone**

More and more movements crop up, inspired by a culture of demanding rights and civility for everyone — the American Revolution, the French Revolution, and the Bill of Rights.

**December 10, 1948**

## **Global Recognition**

The U.N. adopts the historical Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which defines the rights and freedoms all humans deserve.

**April 22, 2016**

## **Is Civility Vanishing?**

The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research at the University of Chicago states that 74% of Americans believe manners and behavior have declined in the U.S.

**May 18, 2021**

## **Emotional Civility is Defined**

Reverend Dr. Sharon Styles-Anderson releases a book called "Emotional Civility: The New Standard for Global Success" about a concept she founded — 'emotional civility' — which she coined to help people understand that how we feel influences our interactions with others.

# HOW TO OBSERVE NATIONAL CIVILITY MONTH

- **Practice civility ourselves**

True change begins with us. So, remember to maintain civility in all interactions with other people. Spend time reflecting on your actions, noting how people reacted to them, and figuring out how you can better yourself in this regard.

- **Influence others towards civility**

Your civility can inspire others, too, like a ripple effect. Be the role model and the standard of decent human behavior, so others around you maintain the same levels of civility.

- **Raise awareness about civility together**

Talk to people around you about the importance of this day. You could also drive change by encouraging various officials to hold special events on civility awareness and training this month (or year-long).





## 5 CELEBRITIES WHO MODEL CIVIL BEHAVIOR



### **Audrey Hepburn's UNICEF work**

After retiring from movies, Hepburn worked for UNICEF and tirelessly raised money, visited various countries, and increased awareness about the foundation's work.



### **Elizabeth Taylor's AIDS cause**

Losing her friend to AIDS impacted Taylor so much that she even started a foundation; buying anything licensed to Taylor even today puts money back to this foundation.



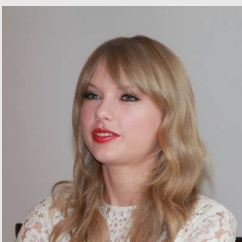
### **Laverne Cox and trans people**

She used her star power to bring attention to the anti-trans laws, appealed to people to end violence against trans people, and pushed for trans cast members of the T.V. show “Pose” to get Emmy nominations — a first for any television series, ever.



### **Bo Jackson covered funeral expenses for Uvalde victims' families**

Former sports star Bo Jackson covered all funeral expenses for the families of the victims of the Uvalde school massacre "so they would have one less thing to worry about as they grieved."



### **Taylor Swift's response to Kanye**

Rapper Kanye West famously disagreed with Swift winning the ‘Best Female Video Award’ at the MTV VMAs in 2009; Swift kept her cool, publicly congratulated all winners, and repeated that she's always had a great career.

# MEDIA

## Books

- ✓ **The Magic of Dialogue – Transforming Conflict into Cooperation** by Daniel Yankelovich. Published by Simon & Schuster, 1999
- ✓ **How to Speak, How to Listen** by Mortimer Adler. Published by Touchstone of Simon & Schuster, 1983
- ✓ **Choosing Civility: The Twenty-five Rules of Considerate Conduct** by Dr. P.M. Forni. Published by St. Martin's Press, New York, New York, 2002.
- ✓ **Simple Truths on Values, Civility and Our Common Good** by Stephen Bauman. Published by Abingdon Press, Nashville, Tennessee, 2006.
- ✓ **George Washington's Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior...and other important writings** by George Washington. Published by Sourcebooks, Inc., Naperville, Illinois, 2007.
- ✓ **The Civility Solution – What to do When People Are Rude** by P.M. Forni. Published by St. Martin's Press, New York, London, 2008.
- ✓ **Saving Civility – 52 Ways to Tame Rude, Crude & Attitude for a Polite Planet** by Sara Hacula. Published by SkyLight Paths Publishing, Woodstock, Vermont, 2011.
- ✓ **How Civility Works** By Keith J. Bybee. Published by Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, 2016.
- ✓ **Treating People Well – The Extraordinary Power of Civility at Work and in Life** By Lea Berman & Jeremy Bernard. Published by Scribner, New York, New York, 2018.
- ✓ **Creating a New Civility** By Joy Marsella. Published by the University of Akron Press, Akron, Ohio, 2020.

## Videos

- [3 ways to practice civility | Steven Petrow - YouTube](#)
- [Civility and Respect - YouTube](#)
- [Civility Initiative Project - YouTube](#)
- [Civility is the Core of Your Successful Career - YouTube](#)
- [Civility Saves Lives - YouTube](#)
- [Does Civility Still Matter? - YouTube](#)
- [Embracing Civility: "Civility lifts people up" - Words of Inspiration](#)
- [Learn about the National Standard – Civility and Respect](#)
- [Steven Petrow: 3 ways to practice civility | TED Talk](#)
- [Teresa Bejan: Is civility a sham? | TED Talk](#)
- [What is civility? - YouTube](#)





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THANK YOU.