



INTERFAITH & INTERCULTURAL CALENDAR 2021

EMBRACING DIVERSITY






The key to an inclusive and healthy society is how individuals feel about belonging to their community. In embracing and celebrating cultural diversity, we work towards achieving a sense of belonging for people from all cultural and religious backgrounds, allowing all members to feel a connection and sense of place.



The Utsav Malayalee Samaj performing the 'Chenda Melam. Traditionally used in storytelling, the Chendras are used to craft new rhythms about life in Melton and connect with other communities.

JANUARY 2021

* Jewish, Islamic and Baha'i holy days begin at sundown on the previous day listed.
 ** Certain Hindu, Buddhist and Islamic holy days cannot be definitely determined in advance as they begin when the new moon is sighted.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1 New Years Day (Public Holiday)	2
3	4	5	6 Epiphany	7 Nativity [Orthodox]	8	9
10	11	12	13 Maghi Pongal (13-16) 	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji 	21	22	23
24	25	26 Australia Day (Public Holiday)	27	28 Mahayana New Year ** 	29	30



This year's calendar celebrates local residents, artists and performers of Melton City Council. We thank them for sharing their generosity and willingness to share their cultures with the community through dance and performance at Council's cultural celebrations.



Our culture is what defines us and we keep it alive through our generations.

FEBRUARY 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 World Interfaith Harmony Week (1-7) 	8	9	10	11	12 Chinese New Year 	13
14	15 Nirvana Day **	16	17 Lent begins on Ash Wednesday †	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Purim *	27 Magha Puja Day / Sangha Day ** 
28						



Each year in March Melton City Council celebrates Harmony Day, a day to engage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity and foster a sense of belonging for everyone. Miya and her family enjoyed last year's celebrations and encourage the Melton community to embrace this annual event.

MARCH 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Labour Day (Public Holiday) International Women's Day 	9	10	11 MahaShivaratri ** Lailat al Miraj * 	12	13
14	15 Great Lent [Orthodox] (15-23 April) †	16	17	18	19	20 Naw Ruz * 
21 Harmony Day 	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Holy Week (28 March-3 April) Pesach* (28 March-4 April) † 	29 Holi * Lailat al Bara'ah * Hola Mohalla 	30	31			



We all belong to the prophet Adam's (Peace be upon him) family, so let's respect the differences among us and unite as one noble family called Human beings/ Humanity.

APRIL 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2 Good Friday (Public Holiday)	3 Holy Saturday
4 Easter Sunday	5 Easter Monday (Public Holiday)	6	7	8 Yom HaShoah *	9	10
†	†			✡		
11	12	13 Ramadan * (** (13 April-12 May)	14 Baisakhi	15	16	17
		☾	☴			
18	19	20 Ridvan * (20 April-1 May)	21 Rama Navami **	22	23	24
		☼	ॐ			
25 Anzac Day (Public Holiday)	26	27 Theravada New Year	28	29	30	
 						



The Harvest Dance is a traditional dance of the Matu Chin. The dance symbolises the importance of harvesting rice and vegetables as the main source of food and livelihoods for the Chin people.

MAY 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31					1
2 Easter/Pascha [Orthodox] †	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Lailat al Qadr * ☾★	10	11	12	13 Eid ul Fitr * ☾★	14	15
16	17 IDAHOBIT 🏳️‍🌈	18 Shavuot * ✡️	19	20	21	22
23 Declaration of the Bab * Pentecost ☀️	24	25	26 Vesak / Buddha Day National Sorry Day 🧘‍♂️ 🇦🇺 🇫🇯	27 National Reconciliation Week (27 May – 3 June) 🇦🇺 🇫🇯	28 Ascension of Baha'ullah * ☀️	29



The preservation of our various cultural practices: our oral history, our ethnic heritage, food and music is what grounds us and keep us connected.

JUNE 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)	15	16 Martyrdom of Guru Arjun Dev Ji 	17	18	19
20 Refugee Week (20 - 26) 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



"We welcome everyone with open arms" Brothers in Arms is a collective of Aboriginal, West Papuan and Tongan dancers who fuse traditional Indigenous dance culture with contemporary street style dancing to raise awareness of diverse cultures and inspire.

JULY 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4 NAIDOC Week (4-10) 	5	6	7	8	9 Martyrdom of the Bab * 	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Tisha B'Av * 	19	20 Eid Al Adha * (20-22) 	21	22	23	24 Asalha Puja / Dharma Day ** 
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



"Love has no boundaries". We believe love is the most powerful force to overcome bias, discrimination and racism. We encourage people to fight for equality and justice because we know, together, we can create a free and inclusive world.

AUGUST 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Hijra *	11	12	13	14
15 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Raksha Bandhan! **	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Krishna Janmashtami **	31				








The Ethiopian coffee ceremony is an integral part of Ethiopian social and cultural life. Ethiopian coffee brings people together in times of happiness and sorrow.

SEPTEMBER 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Rosh Hashanah * (7-8) 	8	9	10 Ganesh Chaturthi ** 	11
12	13	14	15	16 Yom Kippur * 	17	18
19	20	21 Sukkot * (21-27) International Peace day  	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Simchat Torah 	30		

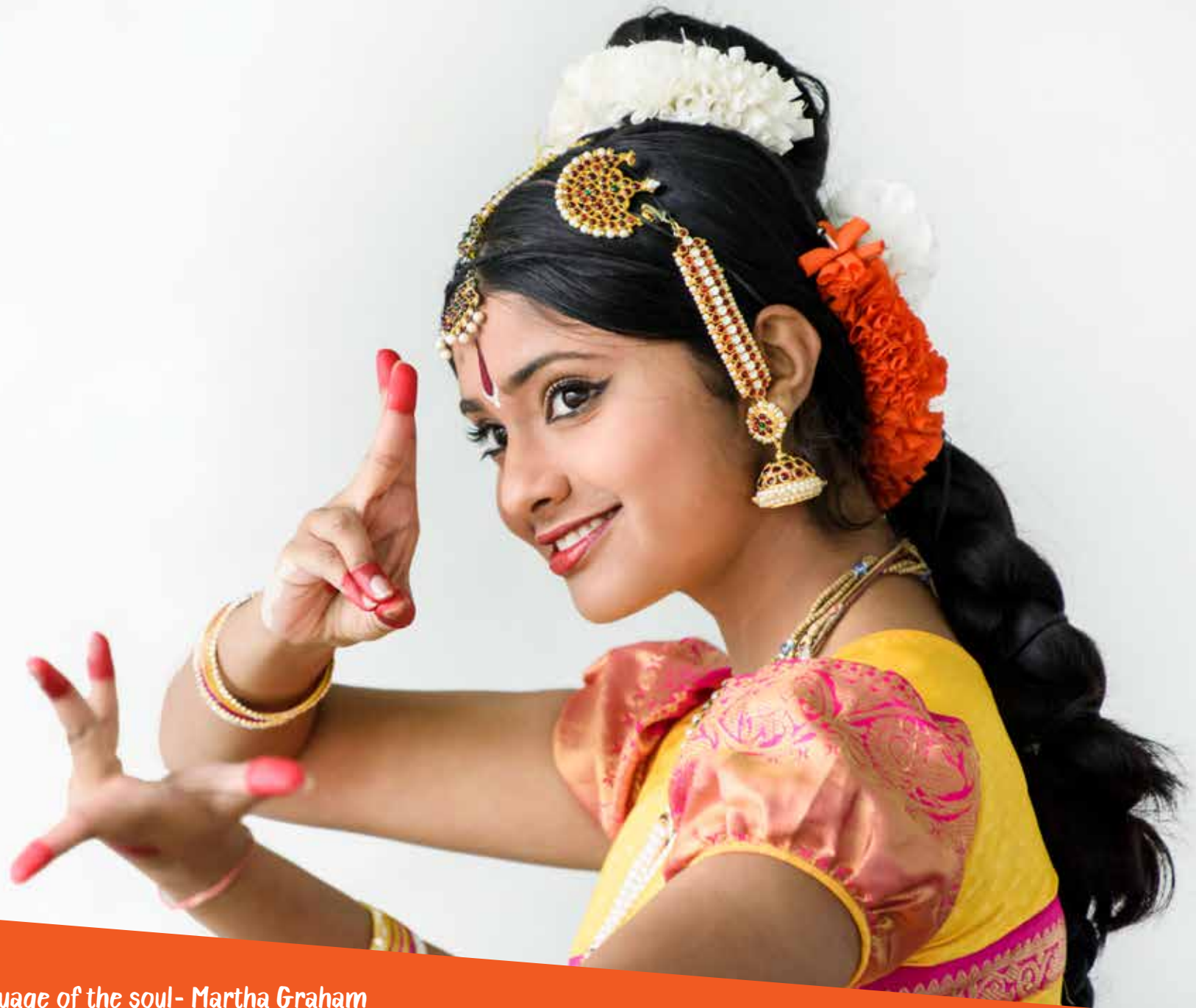


The Melton BULA Meke youth group perform the traditional Fijian Meke Dance. It embraces traditional song and dance to conjure up the legends, spirits, history and love stories found throughout Fiji.

OCTOBER 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Navaratri ** (7-14) ॐ	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Dussehra ॐ	16
17	18	19	20 Conferment of Guruship to Guru Granth Sahib ੴ	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



*Dance is the hidden language of the soul- Martha Graham
The expression of one's culture highlights the important parts of one's identity and values system.
This gives us the ability to embrace other people who have different backgrounds on a deeper level by
sharing a passion for knowing more and participating in other culture's rituals, observances, and holidays.*

NOVEMBER 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 All Saints Day †	2 Melbourne Cup (Public Holiday)	3	4 Diwali ** Bandi Chhor Divas (Diwali) ॐ ॐ	5	6 Birth of the Bab * ☼
7 Birth of Baha'ullah * ☼	8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day 🌺	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib Ji ॐ	20
21	22	23	24 Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji ॐ	25	26	27
28 Advent (28 Nov - 24 Dec) †	29 Hanukkah * (29 Nov - 6 Dec) ☼	30				



“Veselo oro” Happy Dancing, Macedonian folk dances have an important place in the Macedonian folklore and musical tradition. Through our traditional folk dances and songs, we express our feelings, joys and sorrows.

DECEMBER 2021

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Bodhi Day i 	9	10 Human Rights Day 	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day 
26 Boxing Day	27 Christmas Day (Public Holiday)	28 Boxing Day (Public Holiday)	29	30	31	

The Melton City Council acknowledges the First Nations peoples living and working in Melton and recognise the people of the Kulin Nations as the original custodians of the land now known as City of Melton. We pay respect to their Elders, past, present and future

Please note: The names of certain events may have alternative spellings or be recognised on different dates by groups and individuals within communities. The calendar focuses on countries' national days, significant multicultural festivals in Australia, and events that are widely celebrated by Australia's major ethnic and religious communities. Please be advised the calendar is not exhaustive of all events that are celebrated around the world and should be considered a guide only. Calendar users should seek further advice regarding particular events.

