

What's Happening

- Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson was confirmed to the Supreme Court, making her the first Black woman, as well as the first public defender, to serve as a Supreme Court Justice. With Judge Jackson's confirmation, the Supreme Court of the United States will break its 232-year history of being a white male majority.
- As of 4/11, "X" will be an available gender marker option on U.S. passport applications. The State Department is the first U.S. federal agency to offer the "X" gender marker on an identity document, expanding access to accurate identification documents for those identifying as transgender and nonbinary.
- The fifth Invictus Games takes place 4/16 through 4/22 in The Hague, Netherlands. This adaptive event is aimed at wounded, injured or sick Armed Forces personnel and veterans, and takes its name from the Latin word Invictus, meaning unconquered or undefeated.

Let's Recognize

- International Transgender Day of Visibility is an annual event occurring on March 31st dedicated to celebrating transgender people and raising awareness of discrimination faced by transgenders worldwide, as well as a celebration of their contributions to society.
- This month is Scottish American Heritage Month which highlights Scottish heritage and remembers the Scottish Americans who've impacted U.S. society. Scottish Americans contributed significantly to American society and culture..
- April is National Arab American Heritage Month. It celebrates the Arab American heritage and culture and pays tribute to the contributions of Arab Americans.
- National Autism Acceptance Month—also recognized in April—aims to celebrate and promote acceptance of Autism.

Content Club

- ▶ [The Arab American Experience: A Conversation on Being and Belonging](#)
- ▶ [Autism Stories Podcast](#)

DEI Toolkit

The diversity, equity and inclusion toolkit will serve as a resource corner for terms, definitions, training, and information.

Autism, or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. According to the Centers for Disease Control, autism affects an estimated 1 in 44 children in the United States today. We know that there is not one autism but many subtypes.

Autism Speaks Resource Guide

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/resource-guide>

Staff Spotlight: Emil Jensen Perez



Emil Jensen Perez is a Junior Desktop Support Technician with the CIS Helpdesk. Emil started as an intern with Katz and was hired fulltime in 2019 after attending Adelphi University and Westchester Community College. Emil further credits his skill development to the Southern Westchester BOCES. Emil has managed his Autism/Aspergers through determination and support from his mom. His mother encouraged him to keep going, reminding him he was capable of "doing more." In addition, the White Plains Education Training Center strengthened his skills and confidence enabling him to successfully transition to the workplace. Emil enjoys Comic Con, video games and anime.