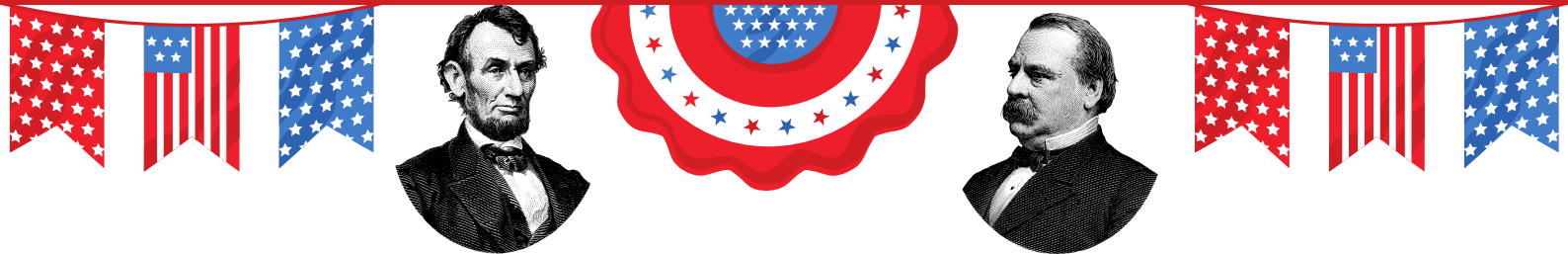


# ISMO FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

National Defense University



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

NDU Updates - 1

Events and Activities - 2

Holidays and Celebrations - 3

Black History Month - 4

## FEBRUARY AT NDU



- Black History Month
- Tuesdays - Ruth's English Conversation Class
- 14 February - Valentine's Day
- 21 February - President's Day

## President's Day

February 21

President's day is a U.S. holiday that honors and celebrates all of the U.S. Presidents. What better place than Washington D.C. to celebrate those who have led this country. To celebrate in D.C. visit the Lincoln memorial, Washington Monument, Franklin D Roosevelt Monument or any other presidential sites.

# Events & Activities

Disclaimer: Due to COVID-19, many events might be canceled, postponed, or changed, sometimes with short notice. Please check with the event's website for the latest updates, as things change frequently.

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## The National Children's Museum



Take your kids to the National Children's Museum to experience the new Alif Ba Exhibition, an interactive experience that introduces young audiences to the Arabic alphabet and language: ongoing until Feb. 21.



## Performances

Enjoy the Washington Ballet's performance of Swan Lake at the **Kennedy Center** from Feb. 9 - 13, or the National Philharmonic's performance of Holst's The Planet in collaboration with NASA Goddard, at **Strathmore** and **Capital One Hall**, Feb. 6 and 13.

## The REACH Winter Lanterns



Visit the **Kennedy Center** this month to see The REACH Winter Lanterns, a free display of stunning lanterns, all crafted by Chinese artisans, occurring until Feb. 6. Celebrate the Year of the Tiger with colorful creatures and flowers across the campus.

## Smithsonian | FUTURES



Visit FUTURES at the Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building, an exploration of the future in technology and human advancement. The exhibit will be on display until July 6, 2022.

## Ice Skating



Haven't had a chance to go Ice Skating yet? It isn't too late! Outdoor ice-skating rinks offer a great option for those looking for a socially-distant outdoor activity. Most rinks require reservations. There are many great options in the DMV area such as the Sculpture Garden Ice Rink at the National Gallery.

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# Holidays and Celebrations

Learn more about these U.S. holidays and celebrations!

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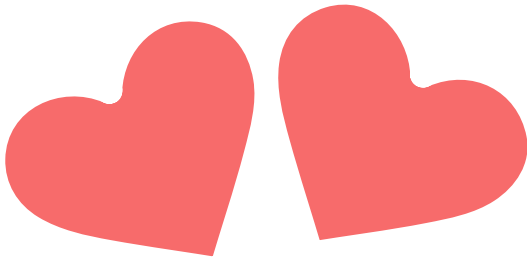
## Groundhog Day - Feb. 2

Ground Hog day falls on February 2 every year. It follows, that if the groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day and sees its shadow, winter will last for 6 more weeks. However, if the ground hog does not see its shadow spring will come early.



## Valentine's Day - Feb. 14

Celebrate all the love in your life on Valentine's Day by exchanging a thoughtful card or some candy with your friends and family.



## Presidents' Day - Feb. 21

There are many ways to celebrate this holiday in DC. Consider visiting the Lincoln Memorial, Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Washington Monument, Woodrow Wilson's House, or Mount Vernon.



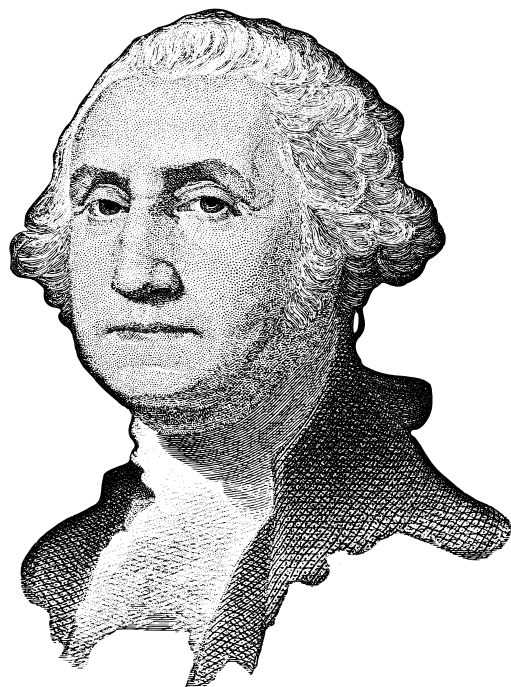
## Chinese New Year - Feb. 1 - 15

Chinese New Year is a celebration of the New Year based on the Lunar Calendar. The celebration lasts a total of 16 days, finishing in Lantern Festival. This year is the year of the Tiger



## President Washington's 290th Birthday - Feb. 22

This year is President Washington's 290th birthday. Consider celebrating by seeing the [George Washington Birthday Parade](#) in Old Town Alexandria (Feb. 21), or visiting Mount Vernon. [Tickets to Mount Vernon](#) will be free the 21 and 22, but you must reserve tickets online in advance. Tickets are available to member holders February 11 and available to nonmember holders on February 15.





# Black History Month

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## History

Since in the 1970's, the U.S. has celebrated Black History Month each February. African American history, culture and stories are explored through a range of activities honoring the legacies of African Americans. Learn more about the origins of Black History Month [here](#).



## Events & Activities

### National Museum of African American History & Culture

The National Museum of African American History and Culture is the nation's largest and most comprehensive cultural destination devoted exclusively to exploring, documenting and showcasing the African American story and its impact on American and world history.



### National Mall

Visit the National Mall where you can stand in the place where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his "I have a Dream" Speech and you can visit the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial.



### Visit Shaw Neighborhood

Shaw neighborhood is a wonderful place to visit to explore African American history in one of DC's oldest neighborhoods.

