

# National Nurses Week 2018

From May 6<sup>th</sup> till May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## What is the celebration for?

We celebrate National Nurses Week because we take pride in the fact that the public has rated nursing as the most honest and ethical profession for the past 16 years. It is only fitting that we take one week each year to celebrate our profession and the vital roles nurses play in health care.

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. It features a host of events across the U.S. to honor nurses for the work they do, and educates the public about nurses' role in health care.

While the first National Nurses Week was celebrated in 1954 – the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nightingale's famous mission to the Crimea – it wasn't until President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation that May 6th would henceforth be National Nurses Day that the annual celebration of nurses' efforts would be nationally recognized.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) has always led efforts to celebrate nursing, ensuring that recognition is promoted as widely as possible; and in 1990 extended it to a week-long celebration of the work of the nation's registered nurses, the largest of the health care professions. ANA's state and territorial nurses associations also conduct celebrations during National Nurses Week to recognize the contributions that nurses and nursing make to the community. Every year ANA selects a theme for the week highlighting a particular aspect of nurses' practice.

This Year's Theme: "Nurses: Inspire, Innovate, Influence"

## **A Brief History of National Nurses Week**

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as **National Student Nurses Day**, to be celebrated annually. And as of 2003, **National School Nurse Day** is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurses Week (May 6-12) each year.

**1953** Dorothy Sutherland of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare sent a proposal to President Eisenhower to proclaim a "Nurse Day" in October of the following year. The proclamation was never made.

**1954** National Nurse Week was observed from October 11 - 16. The year of the observance marked the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's mission to Crimea. Representative Frances P. Bolton sponsored the bill for a nurse week. Apparently, a bill for a National Nurse Week was introduced in the 1955 Congress, but no action was taken. Congress discontinued its practice of joint resolutions for national weeks of various kinds.

**1972** Again a resolution was presented by the House of Representatives for the President to proclaim "National Registered Nurse Day." It did not occur.

**1974** In January of that year, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) proclaimed that May 12 would be "International Nurse Day." (May 12 is the birthday of Florence Nightingale.) Since 1965, the ICN has celebrated "International Nurse Day."

**1974** In February of that year, a week was designated by the White House as National Nurse Week, and President Nixon issued a proclamation.

**1978** New Jersey Governor Brendon Byrne declared May 6 as "Nurses Day." Edward Scanlan, of Red Bank, N.J., took up the cause to perpetuate the recognition of nurses in his state. Mr. Scanlan had this date listed in Chase's Calendar of Annual Events. He promoted the celebration on his own.

**1981** ANA, along with various nursing organizations, rallied to support a resolution initiated by nurses in New Mexico, through their Congressman, Manuel Lujan, to have May 6, 1982, established as "National Recognition Day for Nurses."

**1982** In February, the ANA Board of Directors formally acknowledged May 6, 1982 as "National Nurses Day." The action affirmed a joint resolution of the United States Congress designating May 6 as "National Recognition Day for Nurses."

**1982** President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation on March 25, proclaiming "National Recognition Day for Nurses" to be May 6, 1982.

**1990** The ANA Board of Directors expanded the recognition of nurses to a week-long celebration, declaring May 6 - 12, 1991, as National Nurses Week.

**1993** The ANA Board of Directors designated May 6 - 12 as permanent dates to observe National Nurses Week in 1994 and in all subsequent years.

**1996** The ANA initiated "National RN Recognition Day" on May 6, 1996, to honor the nation's indispensable registered nurses for their tireless commitment 365 days a year. The ANA encourages its state and territorial nurses associations and other organizations to acknowledge May 6, 1996 as "National RN Recognition Day."

**1997** The ANA Board of Directors, at the request of the National Student Nurses Association, designated May 8 as National Student Nurses Day.

## ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE WEEK

#	Activity	Date	Time	In charge
1	Create and distribute event flyer containing all the info regarding the commemoration among nearby grocery stores, community centers, simply by reaching out to local community resources and spreading the word among the students and staff members. Also updating the info on the website is a step to promotion as well as posting all the info in the school boards for everybody to know about it. Email it to staff members and students.			Yosan
2	Student Appreciation Day and Nursing Week, best students from each class selected by the professors will be publicly acknowledged. Donuts and coffee will be available for all the participants	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	09:00, 13:30, 18:00	Yosan Marbelin
3	Free online live webinar: "Emerging Technology and its Impact on Nursing Practice", Gain new knowledge about how to harness rapidly changing technology to enhance patient care. Registrations open till Tuesday May 8 <sup>th</sup> , 19:00, <a href="https://www.nursingworld.org/continuing-education/webinars/emerging-technology-and-its-impact-on-nursing-practice-free-webinar/">https://www.nursingworld.org/continuing-education/webinars/emerging-technology-and-its-impact-on-nursing-practice-free-webinar/</a> <b>CE Information:</b> You are more than welcome (and encouraged!) to broadcast the webinar in a group setting at your facility. If group participants would like to claim free CE, they MUST register individually prior to the event. They can attend the group broadcast and claim their individual CE after the event by logging into their personal account.	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	13:00 EDT	RN students & professors
4	Community Service Fair: Glucose test, body temperature, pulse rate, blood pressure, respiration rate, etc.	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 13:00	RN students & professors
5	CPR free class for the first 25 students enrolled	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	?	Specialist Ana Burgos, Yuny

<https://www.nursingworld.org/education-events/national-nurses-week/>

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