

# ANESTHESIOLOGY & PAIN MEDICINE EDI BRIEF DECEMBER 2024

## Universal Human Rights Month

On December 10, 1948, The United Nations General Assembly drafted the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) which outlines fundamental provisions that are to be universally protected. Among many other things, universal human rights afford us religious freedoms. These freedoms are connected to beliefs, values, and principals that we live by and that help shape our identities. Join us in celebrating [Human Rights Day 2024](#) on December 10.

This year's theme, **Our rights, Our future, Right now**, emphasizes the importance of acknowledging and respecting other cultures and beliefs. It removes the individualist approach and focuses on how we can work together to create a safer future for everyone.

Whether we are discussing tenets from Kwanzaa, the traditions of Hannukah, or stories about Christmas, they are all often tied to memories of family members or practices passed down from generation to generation. And while today we enjoy celebrating a multitude of meaningful December holidays, we must also acknowledge the United States' history of intolerance and violence. December also marks a tragic day in American history. The [Massacre at Wounded Knee](#), which occurred on December 29, 1890, serves as a grim reminder to defend human rights and religious freedoms.

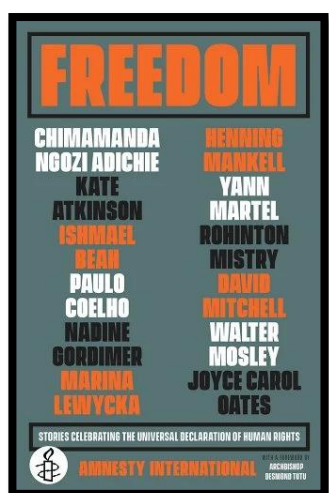
As 2024 comes to an end and we approach 2025, we hope you can spend time with loved ones and support your community. It's the simple things we may take for granted sometimes that can mean the most.

## Department Highlights

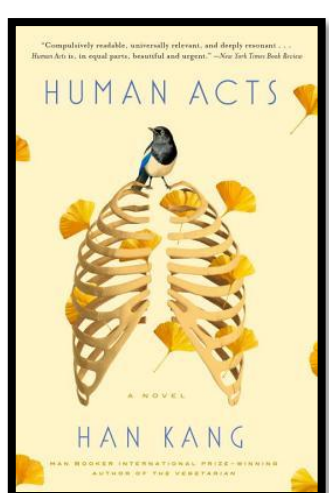
- Don't forget to mark your calendars for the APM Holiday Party on December 18 from 7pm-9pm at the [Burke Museum](#).
- Members of our department often witness incidents of discriminations based on identity. [The Office of Healthcare Equity Bystander Intervention](#) training provides tools to support our colleagues, learners, and patients when confronted with identity-based harm.
  - This course is available to community members who have completed the Foundational Training Series.

## Resources

### Recommended Reading:



[Freedom: Stories Celebrating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#), by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, et al., share stories inspired by the declaration's 30 articles in a way that highlights injustice and the struggle for human rights within the human experience.



[Human Acts](#), by Han Kang and Deborah Smith (Translator), depicts a violent student uprising in South Korea that leads to the tragic murder of a young boy. In that process, his close friend is killed as well while his family and other members of the community are left to grapple with the struggles of censorship and oppression.