

# Spring 2022 LDF Newsletter

Welcome to our springtime in Vegas. Ahhhh... such a beautiful time in the year. The season of blooming flowers and cool breezes marks a fresh opportunity to reintroduce some normalcy into our COVID timeline. In this edition, we dive into the many offerings that March, April and May bring in our community. And (drumroll please), we have our first ever guest contributor: Ciara Byrne, Founder and Co-CEO of Green Our Planet.

Writing this newsletter each quarter is so meaningful to us. We at LDF want to thank each of you for working in our community and helping to inspire our creations. What amazing people you are!

**SWOOSH!**

## Dr. Seuss Day

**March 2nd is the birthday of Dr. Seuss. This day not only celebrates his day of birth, but also a moment to recognize his contribution to children's literature and the new, wonderful, strangely cool world he imagined. His stories are timeless and cherished by many. It's incredibly common on March 2nd to see children and adults alike out and about around town and schools in a Dr. Seuss costume.**

**"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You."**

**— Dr. Seuss, Happy Birthday to You!**

# POW!

## Calling all the Ladies

March celebrates:

**Women's History Month & International Women's Day**

**There are so many cool facts about the beginnings of Women's History Month, which grew from a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, society, and history organized by the school district of Sonoma, California in 1978. 100s of students participated in essay contents, presentations on women's history, and even a parade in downtown Santa Rosa. This idea soon caught on within communities and by 1980 President Jimmy Carter issued the 1st presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8th as National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress the following year passed a resolution establishing this as a national celebration, and 6 years later, the weeklong holiday turned into a month. Other countries soon followed suit, including the United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada.**

**Each year, there is a theme designated for the month of March by the National Women's History Alliance. The 2022 theme is "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope."**

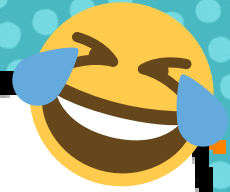
**Inside the month of March, on the 8th each year, is International Women's Day (IWD). This day is a world-wide celebration of the economic, political, and social triumphs of women and girls around the globe. This year's theme is "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow," and the push is to not only celebrate woman's achievement, but to also raise awareness against bias and take action for equality. This year the IWD invites all of us to participate in the #BreaktheBias movement.**



**Check out**

**[www.internationalwomensday.com](http://www.internationalwomensday.com)**

**to support a diverse world where difference is valued,  
and strike the IWD 2022 pose.**



## **"April Fools!"**

**is an expression most people become aware of at a very young age. After all, the infamous day of pranks is firmly ingrained in society.**

**The funny thing is, when it comes to the exact origin of April Fools' Day, the joke's on us. Why's that? Nobody actually knows!**

**Since many know that April 1st will be filled with various high jinks, it's more rewarding to get extra-creative and startle someone in truly unexpected ways. So, whether you're looking to prank your siblings, roommate, spouse, or best buds, here's a fun prank that could be played on any of them:**

**Ask what their ETA is when you have no plans. Out of nowhere, send a message that simply says, "ETA?" and wait for a frantic reply. Extra points awarded to you if you decide not to clarify your statement and follow up with a simple, "We're getting started, so hurry," then ignore them for the rest of the day.**

Happy April  
Fools' day!

# Earth Day

**Guest Contributor Ciara Byrne from Green Our Planet**



As smartphones have grown smarter and media algorithms have gotten more precise, our lives have become increasingly distanced from the natural world. A connection to the Earth breeds environmental care and stewardship, as we see with many Indigenous cultures. Still, our fast-paced, digital and material world has caused this sense of connection to fade, and the planet has paid the price. When we buy a bunch of bananas, how often do we consider that they came from the soils of Guatemala rather than the shelves of our favorite grocery store?

Earth Day is a reminder to look outside and appreciate that everything we have is a gift from the Earth. It brings attention to our critical relationship with nature – both our reliance on a healthy global ecosystem and the harm we are capable of causing if we neglect it. For Earth Day this year, Green Our Planet is bringing Earth's gifts into homes across Las Vegas through a Giant Student Farmers Market! Through Green Our Planet's STEM garden programs across Nevada, students have been nurturing the land from seed to harvest, heightening their connection to nature and where food comes from, all while learning STEM experientially. 60 schools and over 600 students will come together in Downtown Summerlin to share the fruits of their labor with the community. When folks prepare dinner that night with local, student-grown produce, we hope that the experience brings them a little closer to the Earth and to a sense of gratitude for all it provides.

The market will be held on Friday, April 22, 2022, at Downtown Summerlin from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

## **Las Vegas In Bloom**

**Springtime in Vegas is THE BEST weather—it's not too hot, nor too cold, and a great time to adventure outdoors in the beauty this Valley extends. It's also a great time to stop and smell all the blooming flowers.**

**Our spring wildflower season occurs from early March to late May, with April most often being the most flourishing month.**

**To scout out the blooms, you must first know that it is best to start at a lower elevation in the beginnings of spring as that is where the land warms up first, and as the seasons temperature rises, the blooms begin to emerge higher up the elevation. Some great spots to venture into flower hunting are Lake Mead National Park, Red Rock Canyon, Mojave National Preserve, the Desert National Wildlife Range and Death Valley National Park.**

**Some interesting blooms to be on the look-out for are gorgeous hedgehog and beavertail cacti which bloom magenta flowers, wild rhubarb, the bright red of desert paintbrush, pretty shooting star adding touches of pink, spiney menodora with small white flowers, the brightly yellowed desert marigold, the fragrant Palmer's penstemon which looks like a tiny soft lavender bell, and the brittlebush which produces lots of golden daisy flowers.**

**Congratulations to our 3rd Annual Lincoln Dynamic Foundation grant recipients. You did it!**

**This year's applicants were absolutely amazing. The projects submitted to help build our community, strengthen children's education, and to restore our planet really wowed us, thank you for that. We look forward to our continued partnerships with all of the organizations that applied and can't wait to read your 5-month reports. Please be on the lookout for our next grant announcement this fall.**

**BAM!**



## **TaTa...For Now**

*Wow, what a quarter! We are humbled to be in a community full of such inspirational organizations, women, men, and children all doing extraordinary things. From celebrating our planet to our women, to literary greats... the spring months have opportunities for all walks of life to enjoy one another and the great outdoors.*

*With that said, we are also not blind to the current state of the world. Our hearts are with the people of Ukraine and all the refugees and victims of violence and unrest.*

*Happy spring and happy blooming!*

