

“Give To Gain”

International Women's Day 2026

March 8, 2026

“Give to Gain,” focusing on promoting gender equality through support and resources for women and girls. The day highlights women's achievements and calls for action to address ongoing inequalities

Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Together we can forge gender equality. Get ready for #IWD2026.

International Women's Day (IWD) has been around for over a hundred years, as have many of the issues still impacting women's advancement. Since 1911, IWD belongs to all who care about gender equality. Celebrate women's achievement. Raise awareness about discrimination. Take action to forge gender parity. All IWD activity is valid, that's what makes IWD so inclusive.

International Women's Day, observed each year on March 8, is a global occasion dedicated to recognizing the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. Its roots lie in early 20th-century labor movements, where women demanded fair wages, voting rights and dignified working conditions. In 1977, the United Nations formally recognized the day, strengthening its global relevance and purpose. Today, it stands as both a celebration and a call to action. Beyond honoring accomplishments, the day highlights ongoing inequalities and encourages collective responsibility.

The 2026 theme for International Women's Day, observed in India and worldwide, is “Give To Gain”. The message highlights the power of shared effort in advancing gender equality. It encourages individuals, institutions and communities to support one another through meaningful action and collaboration. The campaign underlines that progress grows stronger when opportunities, recognition and resources are extended fairly, creating an environment where women can participate fully and flourish.

Ideas to celebrate International Women's Day

1. Create Women's Day book club

Curate a reading list featuring works by women authors or books centred on women's experiences. Host an intimate discussion at home, in a library or workplace, encouraging open conversations about identity, ambition and equality.

2. Join charity run or walk

Join or organize a community run dedicated to women's causes. Such events promote fitness while raising awareness and funds for organizations working towards safety, education and empowerment.

3. Start social media campaign for women's rights

Use digital platforms to spotlight inspiring stories, highlight local change-makers and share verified resources. A thoughtful online campaign can amplify voices and spark meaningful dialogue.

4. Support female-owned businesses

Choose to shop at women-led enterprises, promote them within your network or collaborate professionally. Economic support strengthens entrepreneurship and builds sustainable opportunities.

5. Organize film screening or documentary viewing

Screen films that explore women's journeys, achievements and challenges. Follow it with a moderated discussion to reflect on lessons and lived realities.

6. Encourage art, poetry or writing contests

Invite students, employees or community members to express what equality means to them. Creative platforms often reveal powerful perspectives that statistics cannot capture.

7. Host health and wellness event

Arrange workshops focusing on physical health, mental well-being and self-care. Expert-led sessions on nutrition, stress management or preventive screenings can make a tangible difference.

8. Launch art exhibition or achievement showcase

Highlight the work of local women artists or create a display celebrating milestones achieved by women in your organization or community.

9. Organize photography contest

Encourage participants to capture images that reflect strength, resilience and everyday leadership. Exhibiting selected photographs can inspire collective pride.

10. Initiate fundraiser for girls' education

Raise contributions to support scholarships, school supplies or mentorship programs for young girls. Education remains one of the strongest pathways to long-term empowerment.

International Women's Day is more than a date on the calendar. Thoughtful action, however small, can honor achievements, strengthen solidarity and help shape a fairer future for generations to come.

International Women's Day is powered by the collective efforts of all...

Collective action and shared ownership for driving gender parity is what makes International Women's Day impactful. Gloria Steinem, world-renowned feminist, journalist and activist reportedly [once explained](#) "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights." So make International Women's Day your day and do what you can to truly make a positive difference for women.

Join the global IWD Community

[International Women's Day 2026](#)

unwomen.org

[https://www.unwomen.org > en > news-stories > announcement > 2026 > 01 > international-womens-day-2026-rights-justice-action-for-all-women-and-girls](https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/announcement/2026/01/international-womens-day-2026-rights-justice-action-for-all-women-and-girls)

[International Women's Day 2026: Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women ...](#)

On 8 March **2026**, rally with **women** and girls around the world to demand equal rights - and equal justice to enforce, exercise, and enjoy those rights