

DID YOU
KNOW?

DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH
HISTORICAL & COOL FACTS



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DID YOU KNOW?

Tom Cruise, from blockbuster action movies like Mission Impossible and War of the Worlds, has dyslexia.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Leonardo DiCaprio, who starred in movies Shutter Island and Titanic, has been diagnosed with OCD.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The movie, A Beautiful Mind, details mathematician and Nobel Prize winner John Nash's struggle with paranoid schizophrenia.



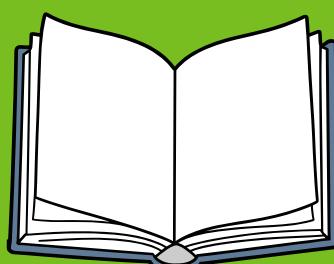
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DID YOU KNOW?

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32nd U.S. President, had a book written by Hugh Gallagher, about him that hid his disability from the world.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Andrea Bocelli -tenor, musician, writer, and musical producer-
was hit in the head at 12 years old and left totally blind.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Michael Phelps was diagnosed with ADHD as a child, but gave up Ritalin when he turned to sports to bring discipline to his world.



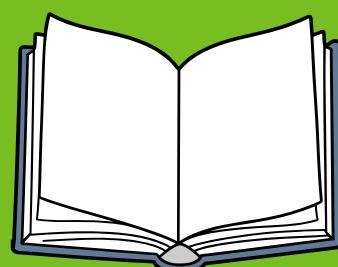
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DID YOU KNOW?

Paul Orfalea founded his business empire, KINKO, during his college years because he had a learning disability.



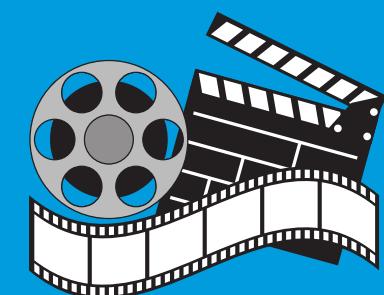
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DID YOU KNOW?

Dan Aykroyd, from Ghostbusters, was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome in early adulthood, which inspired the iconic film.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Daniel Radcliffe, most famous for his role as Harry Potter, was diagnosed with dyspraxia- a neurological disorder that affects motor skill development.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Jill Kinmont, Olympic-bound skier, suffered a devastating fall and was left quadriplegic. [The Other Side of the Mountain](#) (1975) movie told her story.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Michael J. Fox, from movie Back to the Future, was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at the age of 29 and became an activist for others diagnosed.



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DID YOU KNOW?

In the film, Avatar, character Jake Scully portrays a wheelchair user who is not disabled when his mind links with his avatar.



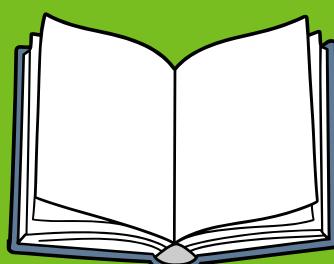
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DID YOU KNOW?

Winnie the Pooh characters that could be diagnosed with mental health disorders: Eeyore with a depressive disorder and Piglet with an anxiety disorder.



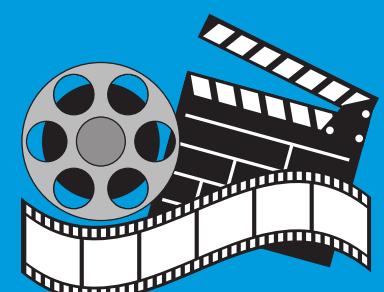
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DID YOU KNOW?

Academy Award winner, Harold Russell, went on to become the first Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The Theory of Everything is a movie about the life of famous theorist, Stephan Hawking, who battled with ALS.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The Association on Handicapped Student Service Programs in Post-Secondary Education (AHSSPPE) became AHEAD on July, 25, 1992.



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DID YOU KNOW?

In 1969, UCR opened an office to provide services for students with disabilities, establishing one of the first such offices in higher education at the time.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The original name of the SDRC was Student Special Services and provided disability and veteran services to UCR students. It was changed to SDRC in 2017.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The number of students seeking SDRC services has grown by 749% from 2015 - 2025, going from 350 students to nearly 3,000.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was the first federal law to prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 is a landmark U.S. civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in all public areas of life.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA) clarified and broadened the definition of “disability” to ensure broader coverage.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Prevalence of students with disabilities at U.S. colleges and universities: about 20% of undergraduates and 10% of graduate students report having a disability.



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