

News and Events

Quarterly Meeting-

The Le Monde DEI meeting meets quarterly on Zoom. The last quarterly meeting of the 2020-21 school year was held on April 8th. Sign up to receive email notifications about future meetings and other DEI Committee events. Agendas and notes from these meetings can be found on the Committee's [website](#).

Stay Tuned for more events:

We are so excited to have hosted 3 virtual performances this year. We have had such wonderful feedback from our parent community and intend to continue to host amazing and influential performers. Stay tuned for our upcoming events honoring [Asian heritage month](#) (May) and [Pride month](#) (June), and a special performance from local author, [Jelani Memory](#). Visit our [website](#) for more information.

Ramadan:

On April 14th, Muslims around the world will observe the holy month of Ramadan. During Ramadan Muslims fast and take the month to reflect and give with spirit and with deeds. We wish all Muslims around the world and in our community a Ramadan Mubarak.

Black History Month Virtual Recital- Watch it here:

On Sunday, February 28, we held "What a Wonderful World," a virtual recital celebrating people of African descent. Many students participated in this moving event, Click [here](#) to learn more or to watch the performances.

Not a Book Club- Thank you to the adults who attended our first "Not a Book Club" discussion in March. We plan to host one more discussion before the school year concludes. More information will be forthcoming via email and on our [website](#).

All content is co-written, co-edited, co-produced, and co-distributed by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, a parent-led initiative, at Le Monde K-8 French Immersion. For inquiries please use the connect button at <https://lemondediversityequityinclusion.com>.

*Sources

Famille du Monde

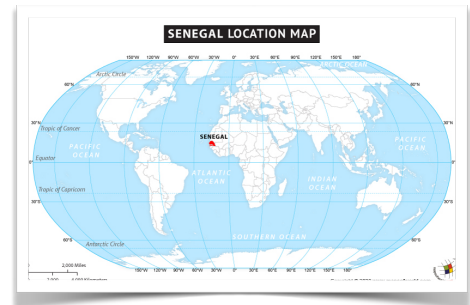
April 2021

Welcome to the second issue of Famille du Monde, a quarterly publication of the DEI Committee at Le Monde. In each issue, you'll find fun and educational resources for your family related to a topic designed to help us feel more connected to diverse local and global French-speaking communities. In this issue, we are tuning in to Senegal to celebrate Senegalese Independence Day: April 4th. The Senegalese community in Portland is tight-knit, and includes families at Le Monde! This newsletter is a way to highlight some of the rich history and traditions from Senegal for your family. We hope you enjoy Famille du Monde! Please contact us with feedback or suggestions for future topics.

Let's talk about:



Senegal is the westernmost country in Africa with miles of beautiful coastline on the Atlantic Ocean. Dakar is the capital city, known for its music and markets, beautiful beaches and colorful characters. Dakar was originally a small Lebou fishing village. Lebou families still hold traditional titles in coastal areas of the city.



Also known as "the land of teranga," Senegalese people often welcome visitors with food and shelter.

The word Teranga means "good hospitality" in Wolof. Teranga is the most highly regarded value in Senegal: it signifies the solidarity and respect shown in a community.

Senegal is known for its delightful cuisine, combining French and North African influences with ancient local traditions. It is widely considered the motherland of Jollof rice that is popular throughout West and Central Africa as well as the American South. The staple dish for many families is thiéboudienne (fish and rice), thought to be the original Jollof rice known throughout the world.

While French is the official language, Wolof is the national language used in daily life. There are an estimated 36 languages spoken in Senegal, with Wolof, Pulaar, Jola and Serer being the most popular.

Senegal is home to 7 World Heritage Sites, including two natural sites: Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary and Niokolo-Koba National Park. Visitors can see the famous baobab trees, lions, gazelles, chimpanzees, baboons, buffalos, warthogs, elephants, crocodiles and over 350 bird species in these parks. Check out the Wolof animal word game - how many animals can you match to their Wolof name ?



Notable People from Senegal:

Culture, Music and History

Doudou N'Diaye Coumba Rose

Have you (ever heard of an orchestra composed entirely of drums? Or a choreographer conducting ballet dancers through drumming? Doudou N'Diaye Coumba Rose 1930-2015) hadn't either, but when he dropped out of art school to pursue drumming, he took the first step toward following his passion and leading the world along with him. In fact, in 2006 he was named a "Living Human Treasure" by the United Nations for preserving and innovating traditional rhythms.



Doudou N'Diaye Coumba Rose

Yousou N'Dour

Yousou N'Dour is a cultural icon and one of the most internationally-recognized Senegalese artists. He's a singer, songwriter, composer, actor, and successful businessman who helped establish the Senegalese musical genre known as Mbalakh. In 2007 Time magazine named him one of the hundred most influential personalities in the world. He advocates for children's rights with his music, and has served as a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).



Yousou N'Dour



Dr. Cheikh Anta Diop

Dr. Cheikh Anta Diop

Dr. Cheikh Anta Diop (1923-1986) was a great champion of African history, a physicist, and scholar. Dr. Diop had a global influence: his objective was to repair the damages from years of colonization in Africa. His ideas extended to the US where Black people were struggling with being regarded as second-class citizens and the effects of slavery. He advocated for the independence of African countries. In 1966, he created the first African laboratory for radiocarbon dating at the university that now bears his name: University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar. His legacy continues to inspire people around the world.

Aline Sitoé Diatta and Ndaté Yalla Mbodj

Powerful women who resisted colonization

On April 4th, people around the world celebrate Senegalese Independence Day by cooking meals, listening to music, and dancing. It is also a time to give thanks for the historical figures who spoke out against oppression.



Aline Sitoé Diatta

Senegal was a French colony between 1895 and 1960, and was the capital of French West Africa. Two of the most respected resistance leaders to French colonial powers in Senegal were women: Ndaté Yalla Mbodj and Aline Sitoé Diatta.

Ndaté Yalla Mbodj reigned as Queen of the Waalo (Wolof) Kingdom between 1846 and 1855. She led successful battles against both the Moors and the French until she was captured and exiled by the French, and she remains a symbol of resistance against French colonialism.



Ndaté Yalla Mbodj

Aline Sitoé Diatta (1920-1944) was born in the Casamance region, where she organized her community against colonial powers to refuse to pay taxes, give up their crops or replace rice with peanuts, and she was also thought to possess supernatural powers. As her popularity grew and grew, French colonial powers accused her of insurrection and incitement to rebellion and eventually arrested and imprisoned her. Revered as the 'Rebel Queen' and seen as a symbol of the national struggle for unity and resistance against oppression, she has had a stadium, a girls university campus and a passenger ferry named in her honor. Years after she passed away, on April 4th 1960, Senegal became an independent country under the leadership of President Léopold Sédar Senghor, who is one of the greatest statesmen, poets, and intellectuals of African descent.



Senegal

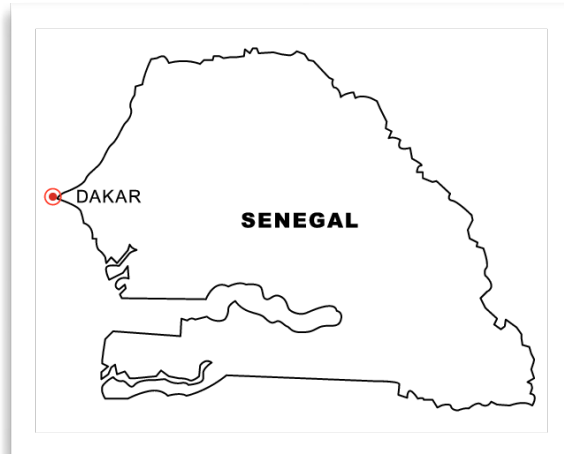
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Live from Dakar:

Many students and families at Le Monde have visited and even lived in Dakar, the capital city of Senegal. Check out what they love and remember about Senegal:

"In Senegal there's a place called Goree Island and the water is warm at the beach. A lot of people can swim to Dakar from Goree Island. The food was the best! The rice and fish with the bissap sauce." Davide Mbaye, Fifth grade

"I like the heat. I liked to see my family that I didn't see before in Senegal." Andala Mbaye, Second grade



Word Search

Find the names of these animals in Wolof and English and color the animals!

Bat: Njugub

Cat: Muus

Cow: Nag

Crocodile: Jasig

Dog: Xaj

Donkey: Mbaam

Frog: Mbott

Goat: Bey

Goose: Bu Mag

Horse: Fas

Hare: Lëg

Lamb: Xar

Lobster: Suum

Mouse: Jinax

Rat: Kaña

Rooster: Séq

Sheep: Xar

Snake: Jaan

Whale: Ngaaka

