

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

# 3 Culturally Rich Ideas to Build Collaboration and Grow a Business

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Cultural richness. It's the kind of power phrase board meetings adore. For many organizations, it does not go beyond the handful of routine holiday parties that many business employees dread attending.

Imbibing culture at work can take many approaches. For example, the human resources team may choose to celebrate the culture of the city where the office is. It can encompass various facets of music, cuisine, and architecture. This approach elevates a business from a passive to an animated, breathing entity.

These three ideas can support cultural integration in a business to promote collaboration and overall growth. They may also make the office a happier place to be, which bodes well for employees and clients.

## **#1 Take Part in and Support Cultural Events**

Your business may organize events annually, like a suppliers' conference or a stakeholder meeting. You may have some casual get-togethers like a Christmas party or team drinks. But cultural events transcend these routine affairs.

Participating in and supporting major cultural extravaganzas is a sure-shot way to gain brand visibility. These platforms allow your business to meet diverse clients and potential partners. They can see the organization's values and beliefs upfront. Further, they encourage community building and cement your company as an active, interested member.

Sponsoring music concerts and food events is a relatively affordable approach for companies to get a far-reaching impact. Business owners can also encourage the staff to volunteer at local affairs, like workshops or art exhibitions.

For employees, such events are an opportunity for self-expression. In June 2024, a Deloitte survey found that many workers claim to feel the need to cover their identities to become one with the mainstream. It could pertain to cultural symbols, gender, or sexual orientation. Over time, it leads to emotional fatigue and burnout. Cultural celebrations deal with these feelings.

Cultural events can be the perfect way to stir up excitement and boost engagement at work. The staff can see these avenues as platforms to own their distinctive belief systems, complete with

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lesser-known foods and fashions.

# #2 Let the City Culture Seep Into Your Office

Another practical way to integrate culture at work is to take hints from the city and its unique symbols. The United States, in all its huge size and geographical variations, offers brilliant scope for doing this.

Think of New York's imposing Statue of Liberty and indigenous hip-hop music. Consider Florida, warm in its picture-perfect, beachy sunshine and contemporary art. Why not integrate some of these elements in your office to give it a distinct character?

Sometimes, even showing the willingness to collaborate with clients at their preferred location shows sensitivity.

For example, many companies now deal with clients worldwide but don't have dedicated office space in the corresponding cities. A convenient way to facilitate such client meetings is through a virtual office address at a strategic address. A virtual office space in NYC, LA, or Chicago can be a game-changer. You can use this office to meet clients, get packages, or receive business guests.

Co-working spaces have become popular among business owners eager to interact with stakeholders from across the globe. A physical office in a prestigious spot can be your calling card to establish these ties. These spaces house professionals from many backgrounds, speaking diverse dialects or separate languages. It is a testament to being open, flexible, and eager.

If you select a virtual office, The Farm Soho recommends considering a receptionist and a waiting area. It is a good way to show regard for your guest's time and interest. You could also consider an on-demand meeting room to attend urgent discussions when a client must head back promptly.

## #3 Take Cultural Initiatives Beyond Lip Service

As of 2025, the US is going through rapid changes on the cultural front after President Trump's reelection. His recent directives have propelled many businesses, like Amazon, to cut back on DEI initiatives. However, some firms like Costco and Apple are holding their ground. They maintain that diversity and inclusion are integral to their business.

One cannot deny that building a culturally rich workplace can have long-lasting repercussions. If implemented correctly, it can counter the rising toxicity in workplaces.

Recently, People Management reported that sick leaves in the UK have surged after the pandemic, affecting productivity. Many employees suffer low morale and reduced work engagement, which is also causing a greater turnover. The situation is similar in the US as well, with poor culture triggering the great resignation (and also quiet quitting).

Companies that lend meaning to cultural sensitivity don't hesitate to take a stand. For example, Coca-Cola started a global campaign in 2024 to exemplify its spirit of cultural richness. The company proudly showcased artistic interpretations of its brand logos across countries like Brazil, Indonesia, and Australia. The varied artwork stresses how integral the soda brand is to different cultures and how it unifies them.

A culturally aware business should convey topical messaging at this time. It will reassure diverse employees and audiences. Being open to discussions with government authorities is essential in this era of global supply chains and dependencies.

They say human beings are social creatures: we believe in building communities and exploring new frontiers. While we may gravitate toward others like us, we benefit from new perspectives and ways of thinking. As a concept, culture connects closely to business growth. It makes organizations flexible, intuitive, and better able to communicate with far-flung audiences.

Let's go out on a limb and admit that the additional effort to integrate culture into a workplace is worth it. It is unclear which direction America will take in the future. Still, losing culture as a powerful force for employee engagement will likely impede business growth.

Photo at top: Vlada Karpovich, Via Pexels

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