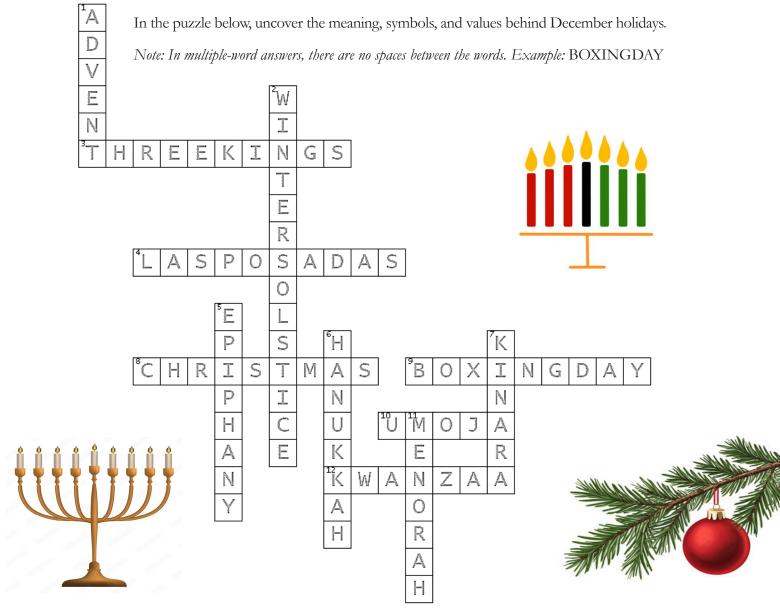
## From Candles to Kinara: Traditions of Hope and Resilience

The December holidays are a time for reflection, unity, and celebration across cultures. From Kwanzaa's principles of community and self-determination to Hanukkah's story of perseverance, these traditions shine a light on justice and resilience.



## **ACROSS**

- 3. Key figures from the nativity, often linked to themes of diversity and unity.
- 4. A Mexican tradition reenacting Mary and Joseph's journey, emphasizing hospitality and inclusion.
- 8. Rooted in Christian tradition and celebrated worldwide, the holiday often symbolizes hope, generosity, and renewal.
- 9. Historically, a day associated with giving and helping those in need, rooted in anti-classism.
- 10. The Swahili word for "unity," the first principle of Kwanzaa.
- 12. December celebration of African heritage, culture, and unity.

## DOWN

- 1. A Christian season of preparation leading up to Christmas.
- 2. Observed by many cultures, celebrating light and renewal amid darkness.
- 5. A Christian holiday commemorating equality and the arrival of wise men to honor a child born in humility.
- 6. Jewish Festival of Lights, often connected with the theme of hope.
- 7. The candleholder used during Kwanzaa to symbolize African values.
- 11. The nine-branched candelabra central to Hanukkah celebrations.

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