

Refugee
Week



Refugee Week is a UK-wide festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Founded in 1998 and held every year around World Refugee Day on the 20 June, Refugee Week is also a growing global movement.

Through a programme of arts, cultural, sports and educational events alongside media and creative campaigns, Refugee Week enables people from different backgrounds to connect beyond labels, as well as encouraging understanding of why people are displaced, and the challenges they face when seeking safety. Refugee Week is a platform for people who have sought safety in the UK to share their experiences, perspectives and creative work on their own terms.

Refugee week would not be possible without the kind support of many individuals and organisations. This year we particularly would like to thank: British Red Cross, IASSN, Leeds City Council, Leeds City Sanctuary, Leeds No Borders, Manuel Bravo, Meeting Point, Opera North, RETAS, The Children's Society, University of Leeds, West Yorkshire Police

For more information or enquiries, please contact the co-ordinator, Ali Mahgoub, Leeds Refugee Forum, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, Leeds, LS9 7SG. Email: ali.Mahgoub@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk, Phone: 0113 2449600/07733171290

Leeds
Refugee
Week
2021

'We Cannot Walk Alone'

Refugee Week takes place every year across the world in the week around World Refugee Day on the 20 June. In the UK, Refugee Week is a nationwide programme of arts, cultural and educational events that celebrate the contribution of refugees to the UK, and encourages a better understanding between communities. The theme for Refugee Week 2021 is "We cannot walk alone"



"I believe that Refugee week is a great opportunity for all to celebrate the contribution refugees make in Britain, and in particularly, Leeds. Diversity is the strength and Refugee Week reminds us of the richness that comes from bringing culture together. Exploring our differences gives us the space to grow and be ourselves, to give and to receive beautiful things such as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing and inclusion."
Ali Mahgoub, coordinator,
Refugee Week

Monday
14th
to
24th
June
2021

This year Refugee Week falls on 14-20 June 2021, it is a week of celebration of the contributions made by refugees. In Leeds we have been celebrating Refugee Week for over 20 years bringing people together from across the city to take part in activities, and to foster greater understanding between communities in our city. Last year the pandemic prevented us from coming together to sit, eat, talk and take part in the many activities, that are always supported by services and communities across Leeds. However, virtual conversations did bring us together to share our experiences and bring hope. This year, the theme is 'We Cannot Walk Alone' and is an invitation to extend our hands to someone new and reach out to those who need our support. This can take place by taking part in activities, reaching out, listening, connecting and welcoming those wishing to establish their life in our city. I would like to thank those organising events in such difficult times and look forward to attending some of the events. Lord Mayor, Cllr Asghar Khan



DATE, TIME & LOCATION	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
Monday 14 June, 10 am - 12 noon, at One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG	Wellbeing and adapting to changes session Persian Women Group	Wellbeing session for Irian women group, places are limited. Attendance by invitation only due to COVID 19 restrictions.	For more information contact Kathy Saemian at kathysaemian@yahoo.co.uk
Mon 14 - Sun 20 June, Convention House, St Mary's Street, Leeds, LS9 7DP	SIT WITH US Interactive Art Installation Mafwa Theatre	"Sit with Us will take place throughout Refugee Week. It is an interactive art installation where women from different migration backgrounds invite you to sit, make yourself comfortable and listen. It will also be available as a virtual exhibition."	Rigorous covid precautions staff and volunteers will be in place at the venue to ensure the safety of staff and audiences. If you want to find out more, email mafwatheatre@gmail.com for further information.
Monday 14 June, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm, Leeds Play House, LS2 7UP	Conversation Café Refugee Council - New Roots project and LEEDS PLAY HOUSE	Join Refugee Council and the Leeds Play House for a drink, a chat and participate in art display. Gift packs containing arts materials available on first come first serve basis.	For more information please contact Amy Mcmillon at 07876144304 or email:amy.mcmillon@refugeecouncil.org.uk
Tuesday 15 June, 1.00 to 2.15 pm. One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG, places are limited	The Leeds Refugee Forum Women Only English class are celebrating Refugee Week	A lesson on Flags, Countries, Cultures and other Refugee organisations. Light refreshments is available, we encourage everyone to bring their own mug or cup for drinks.	LRF Office (0113 244 9600, info@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk)
Tuesday 15 June, Co-hosting event on Zoom (5:00-7:00pm)	Community Sponsorship, Event for Refugee Community Organisations Refugee Council	Reset and Refugee Council will be sharing information about the UK Government's Community Sponsorship programme. The session will include discussions to highlight what some of the specific challenges are for RCOs to become involved in Community Sponsorship.	To book a free ticket and to find out more about the event please click the link. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/refugee-council-reset-how-can-we-improve-community-sponsorship-tickets-156639325439
Wednesday 16 June, 10.00am-12.00pm. Venue: One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG	Women Arise Achievements and contributions celebrating Refugee Week	Open discussion event between two groups, one will virtual over Zoom, about COVID 19's impact on refugee women, challenges faced by and support	For more information contact Helen Tremenheere at helen.tremenheere@gmail.com
Wednesday 16th June, 14.30 and 17.00 pm at 1A, Aire Place Mills, Kirkstall Rd, Leeds LS3 1JL"	Fairy Poppins and the Naughty Winter Ghost: Community Tour @ Open Source Arts, Kirkstall Road	Open Source Arts are hosting a special performance of this fantastic piece of family theatre from Leeds Playhouse. Booking is essential. Help may be available with transport.	For more information and booking contact Myra at 07455356134
Friday 18 June, 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm on Zoom	Refugee Council and City of Sanctuary - Celebrating Refugees in Yorkshire "Together With Refugees"	Hear from speakers with a migration background about their lives, journeys and achievements. Learn how local sanctuary seekers feel about the New Plan for Immigration. Speak directly with your MP and other constituents in an online breakout room	To Register your place: https://refugeecouncil.zoom.us/meeting/register/1Jcv-iqjwHtV15THpv_n76G61379KWMNu
Friday 18 June, 4.30pm-6.30pm. Venue: One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG	Family Party at One Community Centre back open space	Family gathering, diverse traditional music and a gift packs for children. Due to COVID's restrictions places are limited and distances will be kept as guidance required.	LRF Office (0113 244 9600, info@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk)
Saturday 19 June, at 3.00 pm outside Opera North offices at Gateway, (The Gateway East, Marsh Lane, Leeds LS9 8AU)	Special performance of Whistlestop The Magic Flute Opera North	Opera North are about to start touring a small, shortened version Opera North are about to start touring a small, shortened version of Mozart's The Magic Flute and would like to offer a special performance to the refugee and asylum-seeking community during Refugee Week.	For more information Contact Alice (alice.gilmour@operanorth.co.uk) or Tiphaine (Tiphaine.Kelly-Mancaux@operanorth.co.uk)
"Monday 21st June 9-10amFrom the comfort of your kitchen on Zoom."	"Breakfast with Hala" Leeds Asylum Seeker Support Network (LASSN)	A great start to your morning, and to your week. Join Hala as she demonstrates how to to prepare a traditional Palestinian Breakfast. You can cook along with Hala or just watch and get plenty of ideas. There will also be time for questions.	"Register here for a Zoom link and to find out what ingredients you need: https://lassndb.org.uk/civicrm/event/info?id=1314&reset=1 "
24th June – on Zoom AT 5.00 PM	Information webinar: St. Vincent's – A Local Response	It is an information event	Contact Julie Linley at: CLDLeeds@svp.org.uk to sign up or for further details