

Leeds Refugee Week 2022

20-26 June 2022

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.

Theme of Refugee Week 2022: Healing

Healing means recovering from a painful experience or situation, so that we can continue to live. No-one understands this better than those who have lost their homes and had to build new lives from scratch.

For more information and enquiries, please contact the coordinator:
Ali Mahgoub, Leeds Refugee Forum, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street,
Leeds, LS9 7SG.

Email: ali.mahgoub@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk



<p>Refugee World Cup 2022 (RCOs, Agencies and Organisations)</p> <p>Saturday 18 June, 12noon-6pm at Trinity Academy, Tore Road, Leeds, LS9 7QL</p>	<p>Football tournaments are a great way of bringing together RCOs, local communities and agencies football teams in a fun footballing environment. Free to play, 7-a-side teams, refreshments provided. All accompanied by entertainment programmes for families and children.</p> <p>Contact: Ali Mahgoub: 0113 244 9600 / 07733171290 Khair Yacob: 07453927515, David Skivington: 07564267065</p>
<p>A Roxby Close Get Together, Mafwa Theatre</p> <p>Saturday 18 June, 4pm-8pm at Roxby Close, Lincoln Green, LS9 7LR</p>	<p>The launch of a brand new mural painted for the Roxby Close garden. Photogreening - A photography installation mapping out the gardens and green spaces of Lincoln Green. Join us in the new Roxby Close Community Garden to celebrate Refugee Week and the progress made in the garden ahead of its completion next year.</p> <p>For more information contact Keziah on 07563477133</p>
<p>Wellbeing and adapting to changes, Persian Women Group</p> <p>Monday 20 June, 10am-12 noon at One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG</p>	<p>Wellbeing session for Persian Women Group.</p> <p>Places are limited.</p> <p>For more information contact Kathy Saemian at athysaemian@yahoo.co.uk</p>
<p>'Celebrating Us Together!', RETAS Leeds</p> <p>Monday 20 June, 10am-2pm at RETAS Office, Roundhay Road, Resource Centre, LS8 4HS</p>	<p>A gathering of refugees of different countries and communities across Leeds at RETAS where we will share stories and celebrate the contribution of refugees to our local community. We will come together to highlight resilience and impact of refugees in our local community. Light refreshments will be provided. Audiences welcome: Refugees, asylum seekers, RETAS staff and volunteers, local people, partner agencies, local councillor/MP</p> <p>For more information contact Fidelis Chebe on fidelis@retasleeds.co.uk / 0113 380 5630</p>
<p>Little Amal in Leeds, War Horse creators Handspring Puppet Company</p> <p>Monday 20 June, 6-8pm in Leeds City Centre.</p>	<p>The Walk is a celebration of migration and cultural diversity that tells the story of the contributions made by refugees and immigrants. It represents the refugee story as one of potential, success, respect, hospitality and kindness.</p> <p>The walk will start on Briggate at 6pm and finish on Millennium Square at 8pm, with a number of performances and activities happening along the route and on Millennium Square.</p> <p>For more information contact Niamh Bryson on niamh.bryson@leedsplayhouse.org.uk</p>
<p>World Refugee Day Leeds, Trinity University</p> <p>Monday 20 June, 12noon-3pm at Leeds Trinity University, Brownberrie Lane, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 5HD</p>	<p>Leeds Trinity University is doing a day around the refugee experience and education. Two academic speakers to talk about the challenges facing refugees, their experiences and the support we offer. Transport and lunch provided.</p> <p>For more information contact Chijioke Ojukwu on 4sightandequitysolutions@gmail.com</p>

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<p>'Seeing Asylum' Exhibition, Leeds Church Institute, St Aidan's</p> <p>Tuesday 21 June, 3pm-6pm at St Aidan's Church, Elford Place, LS8 5QD</p>	<p>The exhibition launch is on 21 June 2022 at 3pm, followed at 4pm by a lecture from Dr Victoria Canning. The exhibition will then be open to the public on Wednesday between 10.30-1pm; Thursday from 12-2pm; Friday from 4-6pm and Saturday alongside FoodShare from 10.30-12.</p> <p>For more information contact Andrea Hofbauer, andihofb@gmail.com / 07850144552</p>
<p>Women's Celebration event, Women's Health Matters</p> <p>Tuesday 21 June, 10.30am-12.30pm. One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, Leeds, LS9 7SG</p>	<p>Screening of a film, along with some popcorn and snacks for the women. Group members will gather together to share food and music from different countries. The Rainbow Hearts group is facilitated by Women's Health Matters for asylum seeking women.</p> <p>For more information please contact Hannah West on 07956 358 095</p>
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<p>Leeds Welcome" Dinner & some music, Hyde Park Book Club</p> <p>Tuesday 21 June, 7pm at Hyde Park Book Club, 27 Headingley Lane, LS6 1BL</p>	<p>Dinner and music to welcome refugees, asylum seekers, migrants to the city. You are invited to meet and connect with people from the arts community, and enjoy food and music.</p> <p>For more information Contact Jack Simpson at jacksimpson@hydeparkbookclub.co.uk</p>
<p>Women Arise achievements and contributions celebrating Refugee Week</p> <p>Wednesday 22 June, 10am-12noon at One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG</p>	<p>Open discussion event between different groups celebrating women's achievements, challenges and support</p> <p>For more information contact Helen Tremenheere at helen.tremenheere@gmail.com</p>

<p>A showcase of amazing musicians seeking refuge, Opera North</p> <p>Thursday 23 June, 7.15pm at Howard Assembly Room, Howard Opera Centre, 46 New Briggate, Leeds, LS1 6NU</p>	<p>Opera North has been a Theatre of Sanctuary since 2018, in recognition of its ongoing work to make refugees and asylum seekers feel welcome. We are delighted to present this event as part of Refugee Week, a UK-wide festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary.</p> <p>For more information contact 0113 243 0808</p>
<p>Musicultural Conversations: Interactive English, music and drama session, in association with Leeds Church Institute.</p> <p>Saturday 25 June, 10am-12noon, at The Holbeck, Jenkinson Lawn, LS11 9QX</p>	<p>Practice your spoken English, meet new people, and share the joy of music and drama in this fun and interactive session. Refreshments will be provided.</p> <p>For more information please email Nicky Bary at leedsmusicultural@gmail.com</p>
<p>Cultural Day (Together for Leeds), Leeds Refugee Forum</p> <p>Saturday 25 June, 2pm-5pm, at Bridge Community Church, Rider St, Leeds, LS9 7BQ</p>	<p>The programme includes wonderfully traditional folk dance and music from different refugee communities, collections of cultural and heritage items by different communities, belly dancing, traditional costume fashion show, national food and stands and tables for the agencies to display leaflets and posters.</p> <p>For more information contact Ali Mahgoub or Katia Spyrou on 0113 244 9600</p>

"Refugee Week brings people of all ages, backgrounds and cultures together and provides us with an opportunity to think about our city's values. Leeds has become a new home for many people from all corners of the world who have, and are, seeking sanctuary from persecution.



This year Refugee Week focuses on Welcome: and these last few months have shown how warm a welcome Leeds can offer to refugees and asylum seekers across our city. Leeds citizens have produced an overwhelming response to the current refugee crisis to support those in need both here in Leeds and as far as Ukraine. This to me shows how united we are as a city and how ordinary people can support those who have experienced trauma that some of us can't bear to even imagine.

Let's come together to celebrate the contributions refugees make to our city, and for us to learn and enjoy different cultures." - **Priya Bhabra**

"June is the month, a time for us to celebrate the contribution of refugees to the UK. The aims of the week to deliver and highlight a positive message that counter fear, ignorance and stereotypes of refugees through focusing on the contributions made by refugees to our society today. UK draws much of its strength from its diversity—diversity of color, certainly, but diversity of culture, ideas, points of view, and skills as well.



Communities with a multitude of different backgrounds which help to make the UK a diverse and exciting place to live. During Refugee Week we can explore why people might seek sanctuary in countries like the UK. Let us celebrate our achievements and share our future." - **Ali Mahgoub**