

World Refugee Week Events 14 - 20 June

World Refugee Day - Saturday 20 June 2009

UNHCR's theme for 2009 - "Real People, Real Needs" www.unhcr.org

Listen out to Radio New Zealand National - Nine to Noon, 10.45am

Monday 15 - Friday 19th, a series of dramatised stories from former refugees:

Mon 15 June The Day the Soldiers Came - Doris Niyonsaba

Tue 16 June Escaping the Taliban - John Nabizadah and Zia Rassuli

Wed 17 June Tampa rescue - John Nabizadah and Zia Rassuli

Thur 18 June Escape from Iran

Frid 19 June Slow Road from Myanmar - Hser Naymoo

Asia Downunder - will profile World Refugee Day on TV One, Sunday 21st

Auckland

Friday 19 June - Auckland Regional Schools Event

Mt Albert War Memorial Hall, 11am - 2pm (invite only)

This event is organised in collaboration with the Refugee Cluster (school teachers), Refugee Services and the Department of Labour, supported by Auckland City Council, and the Ministry of Education. This is an opportunity for students from a refugee background from all over the Auckland region to come together to acknowledge World Refugee Day. There will be some performances by groups such as the Tampa playgroup and a Kurdish high school group from South Auckland.

Saturday 20 June - Auckland Regional World Refugee Day event

New Lynn Community Centre, 6pm - 9pm (invite only)

Organised in collaboration with Refugees as Survivors, the Auckland Refugee Community Coalition, Auckland Regional Council, Department of Labour, Mangere AUT, and the Office of Ethnic Affairs, this event is a chance for Auckland's many refugee communities to come together to mark World Refugee Day. This event acknowledges the refugee experience that the communities all share, while sharing the differences that they have all been through - both the journey to New Zealand and the settlement experience. We will have speakers from communities that arrived in the 1980s and 1990s, and encourage a sharing of stories between people of different ethnicities and stages of settlement. There will be food and performances contributed by a diverse range of Auckland's refugee communities. (private function 6pm-9pm)

Hamilton

Tuesday 16 June 7pm

Emergent Art Exhibition

 in association with Waikato Migrant Resource Centre

An exhibition of emerging young artists from the migrant and refugee communities. Tickets \$10 with proceeds going towards art incentive awards for exhibiting artists. (to be held at the Waikato Migrant Resource Centre)

The Hamilton Mayor is hosting an event which is being arranged by the Waikato Refugee Forum with assistance from Refugee Services, acknowledging WRD and giving awards to those who are involved in settling refugees. (private function to be held at the Council Reception Lounge on Wednesday 17 June at 7pm)

Waikato Volunteering Excellence Awards - two volunteers from Refugee Services have been nominated. (Wednesday 17 June - 7pm - Waikato Stadium, tickets \$20 from Volunteering Waikato, contact: (07) 839 3191, volunteeringwaikato@xtra.co.nz)

Palmerston North

The Palmerston North refugee focus group with assistance from Refugee Services Palmerston North City Council present Festival of Cultures at the Convention Centre, a free public event on Saturday 20 June, 1pm to 3.30pm; stories, song and dance from Rwanda, Burma, Bhutan, Algeria, Congo, Cambodia and Somalia.

Wellington

Sunday 14th June -10am - 2pm Kicking off Refugee Week at Newtown Park
Soccer Match and Cultural Festival

Join former refugee communities as "The Refugee All Stars" and the "Wellington Invitation Team" meet again for the annual soccer match to kick off World Refugee Awareness Week.(Refugee All Stars are the current cup holders) Cultural performances, food and awards at the clubrooms afterwards.

Kids4Kids -

World Refuee Day - Saturday June 20 - Wellington Town Hall - 10am-3pm

For children 5-12years of age

\$25 - all proceeds go to supporting the work of Refugee Services and Children on the Edge. www.childrenontheedge.org.nz

An entertaining and fun filled event for children to celebrate cultural diversity through music, arts and crafts and food. Activities include African drumming workshop, Hip Hop workshop, International Arts, Crafts and Language and fun with Mr Fungus, NZ's loudest Mime. Ethnic lunch and adult supervision provided.

Bookings essential: Ph:04 460 7455 or email kids4kids@childrenontheedge.org.nz

"Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars" - by Zach Niles and Banker White

Presented by Refugee Services and Dev-Zone

Saturday 20 June - 5pm - Free Film Screening - New Zealand Film Archive - 84 Taranaki Street

This award winning documentary film tells the remarkable and life-affirming story of Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars, a group of musicians who form a band while living in a West African refugee camp. Through music they find a place of refuge, a sense of purpose and a source of power. The story of Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars celebrates the best of the human spirit - the incredible ability of individuals to sustain hope and find forgiveness even in a climate of rage and loss.

www.refugeeallstars.org

Lower Hutt

A Celebration of Everyday People- Crossroads Community Church - Cnr Kings Crescent and Cornwall Street - free public event

Saturday 20 June 12.30 -3pm

12.30 - 2pm - Cooking demonstrations from different ethnic communities

1pm - 2pm - Chin State (Burma/Myanmar) Dance Workshop

2pm - 3pm - Drum workshop with Sam Manzanza

Nelson

Will have a display on June 20 promoting Refugee Services and Volunteer Awareness Week at the local Saturday market. Montgomery Carpark - 8am - 1pm

Christchurch

Will be holding an event to be arranged by local refugee communities with assistance from Refugee Services in July...tbc.

Other:

The Voices-Arts Trust Radio Project

<http://www.voice-arts.org.nz/>

Refugee Services Aotearoa New Zealand

www.refugeeservices.org.nz www.worldrefugeeday.org.nz

United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)

www.unhcr.org or www.unhcr.org.au (Regional Office, Canberra)