INVITATION

Voices of Resilience: Stories, Creativity & Solidarity

Friday, 20 June 2025, 10:45-13:00 Frederick University, Nicosia









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On the occasion of World Refugee Day, the Department of Arts and Communication of Frederick University and UNHCR Cyprus invite you to the event

Voices of Resilience: Stories, Creativity and Solidarity

dedicated to honouring the resilience, courage, and strength of refugees around the world.

Friday, 20 June 2025, 10:45-13:00 Seminar Room "Tassos Papadopoulos", 1st floor, New Wing Frederick University, Nicosia (7, Y. Frederickou Str. Pallouriotisa)

Please RSVP <u>here</u> (until June 19)

For more information: Tel. 22394394, ext. 49117 (Dr Anna Merry)

World Refugee Day 2025 focuses on solidarity with refugees.

Solidarity means honouring refugees not just with words but with actions. It means listening to them and making space for their stories, defending their right to seek safety and finding solutions to their plight, ending conflicts so they can return home in safety. It means ensuring they have opportunities to thrive in the communities that have welcomed them and providing countries with the resources they need to include and support refugees.

Above all, solidarity means saying, clearly and courageously, that refugees are not alone and that we will not turn our backs.

AGENDA

- 10:45-11:00 Registration
- 11:00-11:05 Welcome Remarks Emilia Strovolidou, UNHCR Cyprus
- **11:05-12:05** *EU-CONEXUS Festival: Reflecting on the Mediterranean identity* Professor Costas Mantzalos, Department of Arts and Communication, Frederick University

How creativity and skills training can transform lives: the example of the "Face forward... into my journey" project Victoria Leonidou, Department of Arts and Communication, Frederick University

Spotlight on the OPEN UP Design Lab – BRIDGE Project (Creative Europe 2025 Proposal) Constantinos Economides, Industrial Designer

Beyond Gratitude: How refugees can redefine contribution in Cyprus *Bikash Shrestha*

From Togo to Cyprus: A young refugee's story turned into a book titled "Reflections of a Youth in Search of Meaning" Wisdom Agbove

Cyprus Art Retreat, a synergy of community, nature and art: an initiative by wood carver Tim Price and displaced Congolese artist Francis Mupini Francis Mupini

- 12:05-12:15 Break
- 12:15-13:00 Discussion facilitated by Dr Anna Merry