

LAUNCH OF NEW STUDENT CAMPAIGN

Seaquam students unite to participate in the current Syrian Refugee Crisis

The civil war, taking place in Syria has caused a worldwide humanitarian crisis, leaving 13.5 million Syrian people displaced (the majority being children). Canada, to date, has accepted 26,207 Syrian refugees; many of whom have settled in North Delta, Surrey and White Rock. The Social Justice 12 and IB Art 11 classes at Seaquam Secondary have joined together to create a Syrian refugee campaign entitled "Students for Syrian Refugees."

The goals of this project are: to combat negative stigma (e.g. Islamophobia), bring awareness to the events that occurred forcing these children and their families (in most cases) to flee Syria (13.5+ million total; an estimated 6 million are children), raise money for sustainable living, and give these children/families a voice and platform to be seen. Currently, our most vulnerable are at serious risk of becoming a part of the collateral damage within the backdrop of war.

On April 18th, beginning at 5:30 pm Students for Syrian refugees will host "ART: THE LANGUAGE WE ALL SHARE;" an art show and auction for Syrian Refugees at Seaquam Secondary. The art displayed in the gallery is painted and constructed by IB Visual Art and Social Justice Students who have taken inspiration with permission from the instagram account @InsideZaatari (Save the Children's official account of photos and stories of refugees inside Camp Za'atari; the largest Syrian Refugee camp in the world) and several Syrian refugees who have relocated to White Rock.

World renowned artist JR and his INSIDE OUT team are supporting our "Inside Out" project. Over the remaining weeks of March, the students have gathered refugee families to interview and photograph. These photos are being printed 7 feet by 2.5 feet and posted on the outside of Seaquam Secondary as our INSIDE OUT "action" supported by JR and his team.

On Thursday April 14th (TIME: 1:20-2:45; LOCATION: Seaquam Secondary outside the front of the school) we will be pasting the massive posters of Syrian Refugees outside our school in solidarity with JR and INSIDE OUT for our "action." JR's team will be posting our action on their website and social media to help us in combatting stigma and raising awareness.

Save the Children, UMOJA Compassion Society, LUSH headquarters in the UK (donated soaps for the mothers of the families we have been working with) and JR's INSIDE OUT Team are all supporting our project.

You can find out more on <http://studentsforsyrianrefugees.weebly.com>

Or follow our instagram account @StudentsForSyrianRefugees

And Twitter @Students4SR

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