

Celebrate World Refugee Day in Austin at the Bullock Museum

Festival celebrates new American citizens with family fun

June 1, 2017 (AUSTIN, TX) — Whether their journey is 1,000 miles or 10,000, refugees all have a unique and individual story to tell. Join us Saturday, June 17, as refugees from several different countries reach the pinnacle of their journey to receive American citizenship. The Austin celebration of the International World Refugee Day across will be held at the Bullock Texas State History Museum from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with an official naturalization ceremony and children's activities that will focus on learning about the journey of a refugee.

The United Nations established <u>World Refugee Day</u> to recognize the courage, resilience, and strength of refugee families and individuals who have fled their home countries because of conflict and persecution. Sponsored by the Bullock Museum and member organizations of the <u>Austin Refugee Roundtable</u>, World Refugee Day highlights the plight of those fleeing their home country due to religious or political persecution. More than 1,000 refugees from nearly 30 countries come to Austin each year to start a new life.

The Bullock Museum has partnered with iACT and the Refugee Roundtable to host Austin's World Refugee Day each June for the past eight years. The Bullock Texas State History Museum was recognized as one of the honorees at the Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT) 2017 Hope Awards.

Beginning at 11:30 a.m. visitors will learn more about the journey of a refugee, from home country to the United States,

through games sponsored by <u>Caritas of Austin</u> and <u>Refugee Services of Texas</u>. The naturalization ceremony will begin at noon in the Texas Spirit Theater.

Entertainment will be provided by <u>Kupira Marimba</u> and children's storyteller Elizabeth Kuhara. Attendees are invited to taste samples of world cuisine courtesy of Rosemary's Catering, while



Commemorate the United Nations' World Refugee Day at the Bullock Museum with a naturalization ceremony, free samples of world cuisine, live music and performances, and activities for families with kids ages 6 and up. supplies last. Enjoy family activities for all ages, a photo booth, and admission to the Bullock Museum's exhibitions will be free all day.

The Austin World Refugee Day celebration is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.TheStoryofTexas.com or call (512) 936-8746.

###

MEDIA Images and Assets:

http://bit.ly/2rJSxeR

ABOUT THE BULLOCK MUSEUM

The Bullock Texas State History Museum includes three floors of exhibitions, Laser IMAX[®] and multisensory special-effects theaters, a café and museum store. The Museum collaborates with more than 700 museums, libraries, archives and individuals to display original historical artifacts and host exhibitions that illuminate Texas history and culture. For more, visit <u>TheStoryofTexas.com</u> or call (512) 936-8746.

ABOUT THE AUSTIN REFUGEE ROUNDTABLE

The Austin Refugee Roundtable enhances collaboration between agencies, community groups and individuals who serve refugees, with the aim of making Austin a welcoming and supportive resettlement community. The coalition is comprised of a number of local agencies that work with refugees including: Caritas of Austin, Interfaith Action of Central Texas, Refugee Services of Texas, Multicultural Refugee Coalition, Amala Foundation, Center for Survivors of Torture and others. For more, visit www. austinrefugees.org or call (512) 386-9145 x 304.

1800 N. CONGRESS AVE. | AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701 | (512) 936-8746 | THESTORYOFTEXAS.COM