



YMCA Immigrant  
Services



# Youth Outreach

Speaker: Olha Filipka



# What is Youth Outreach?

Free programming for newcomer youth and families that develops leadership skills, independence and a social network.

- Leadership Development
- Volunteering
- Community Involvement
- Recreation
- Social Activities
- Homework Clubs







**Youth Outreach Leadership Project**  
Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and  
Refugee Youth  
In partnership with Halifax Theatre for Young  
People.



# Youth Outreach Leadership Project “Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth”

This project is a theatrical presentation that shines a light on what it is like for a youth to be a newcomer to Nova Scotia. Composed of short plays and monologues by newcomers from all over the world.



# Youth Outreach Leadership Project

## Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth

### Key Aspects

1

Unique and diverse perspective on being a Newcomer to Atlantic Canada.

2

12 weeks leadership program

3

Learned how to create short plays and monologues

4

Sharing youths' experiences, backgrounds and circumstances

5

Worked on improving leadership skills

6

Helped in finding friends and having fun



Youth Outreach Leadership Project  
Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth

# Youth Participants and Staff:

Matiullah Nabizada (Afghanistan), Adeb Fakhry (Afghanistan), Karim Hamo (Syria), Shanella Itangakubhuntu (Tanzania), Wali brothers – Abed, Farid and Naweed (Afghanistan), Muhammed Mardinli (Syria), Mustafa Alsaied (Syria), Farhad Mousa (Syria), Tony Ma (China), Ahmad Alossi (Syria), Ibrahimi brothers – Wajhid and Sajid (Afghanistan), Sabbagh brothers – Karam and Layan (Syria), Janet Uzamukunda (Uganda), Farzad Hamidi (Afghanistan)



Luciana Silvestre  
Fernandes

Director of  
Production



Tessa Mendel

Artistic Director of  
Halifax Theatre for  
Young People



Beth Lachance

Assistance  
Facilitator



Olha Filipaska  
Saeed Alzoubi  
Aya Wahdan  
Midya Hamo  
YMCA Staff





# Youth Outreach Leadership Project Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth

Through the power of storytelling and the arts, this project fostered understanding, empathy, and appreciation for the diverse backgrounds and journeys of these young newcomers.



Youth Outreach Leadership Project  
Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth

Empower  
Immigrant and  
Refugee Youth

Raise Awareness  
and Promote  
Inclusivity

Strengthen  
Community Bonds

Objectives

Utilize Theatre for  
Social Change

Create a  
Lasting Impact



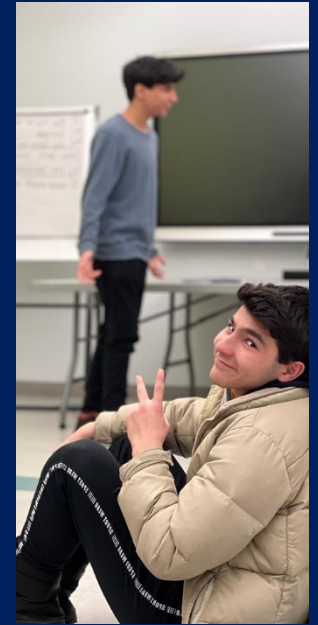


# Youth Outreach Leadership Project

## Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth

# Project Activities:

- Zoom sessions with playwrights and youths
- Storytelling workshops
- Creating short plays and monologue sessions
- Script development workshops
- Public speaking exercises
- Improving English sessions
- Rehearsals and performance preparation
- Theatre activities



Youth Outreach Leadership Project  
Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth

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**Empowered  
Youth**

Immigrant and refugee youths involved in the project gained confidence, leadership skills, and a sense of accomplishment through sharing their stories and seeing how their stories reflected

**Increased  
Awareness**

The project contributed to increasing awareness and understanding of the challenges, aspirations, and achievements of newcomer youths among Nova Scotia's residents.

**Inclusivity  
and Empathy**

The project promoted inclusivity and empathy, encouraging residents to be more welcoming and supportive of newcomers.





# Youth Outreach Leadership Project

## Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth





# Youth Outreach Leadership Project

## Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth



The "Newcomers: Stories from Immigrant and Refugee Youth" leadership project aspires to be a catalyst for positive change by using the arts to bridge cultural gaps, foster understanding, and celebrate the rich tapestry of Nova Scotia's immigrant communities.

