

FEBRUARY - JULY 2023



MACFEST

MUSLIM ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL

**CELEBRATING ARTS AND
CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

Art • Literature • History • Photography • Culture • Architecture • Music • Film

Join us for over 75 Events!



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WELCOME TO MACFEST 2023!

#spreadhoneynothate



@MACFESTUK





Hello and Salaam...

Welcome to MACFEST 2023! The ground-breaking and award-winning Muslim Arts and Culture International Festival.

Our mission: Celebrating arts, diversity, and connecting communities. We are proud to offer you again a rich feast of 70 events from February to July 2023 across the North West, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the Muslim diaspora communities.

We are delighted to offer you an international art feast, with events hosted from Abu Dhabi, Scotland, Kuwait, Dubai, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and the USA. We are proud to present various themed festivals within MACFEST: Youth, Women, Ramadan, Museum and Libraries Festivals. There are many highlights: including the amazing Hijrah Exhibition from Dammam, Saudi Arabia and 'In conversation with Fatima Manji, a panel, with Channel 4's newsreader and author.

You will find something for the whole family: literature, art, history, music, performance, photography, culture, comedy, art exhibitions, demonstrations, debates, women and youth panels, children's activities, and art workshops. We are bringing you a great line-up of local, national and international speakers: performers, writers, academics, photographers, comedians, poets, newsreaders, artists and singers from Afghanistan - to the USA.

A New Development: join us on our 'MACFEST Heritage Tours' to Spain and Iran. Together we will go on a journey through these wonderful countries, exploring art, architecture, cuisine, local cultures and much more!

On 4th March, we are celebrating our 5th anniversary of MACFEST and Muslim Women's Arts Festival, part of Muslim Women's Arts Foundation, a sister company of MACFEST

UK. This initiative was established last year to celebrate Muslim women artists locally and internationally. With over 25 events hosted in the North West, and globally: from Australia to Tunisia - over 75 creative women, such as poets, performers, writers, photographers, artists, embroidery artists and calligraphers.

We are offering a hybrid programme with digital and live events with our wonderful partners across the North West. We are delighted to partner and host events with Manchester Lit & Phil Society, The Writers' Guild of Great Britain, Bury BAME Project, Bolton Sunnyside Club, Huddersfield Literature Festival, Sheba Arts, Yaron North West, The Literary Circle of Kirklees, Trafford/Stockport College Partnership Group, and the University of Manchester and Salford.

We are equally delighted to host a Youth Festival starting in February with schools and colleges celebrating MACFEST Days! This includes: arts, cultural activities, poetry, calligraphy and an international panel.

A very warm welcome to our new and existing colleges and schools partners and the British and international students taking part in MACFEST 2023, including from Nigeria.

Nearly all of our events are free. Donations are welcomed.

Thank you for joining us! Enjoy!



Qaisra Shahraz MBE JP

Founder, Executive Director
and Producer of MACFEST



Books and Literature

Environment

Museums and Libraries



Ramadhan Festival

Cultural Heritage

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



Women's Arts Festival

Heritage Tours

Performance

Art and Design

Schools and Colleges





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WEEKEND FESTIVAL

Opening Ceremony MACFEST 2023!

Date: Saturday, 18th February

Time: 12.00 - 13.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for the opening ceremony of Manchester's fifth MACFEST - Muslim Arts and Culture Festival - to kickstart the festival with over 70 events!

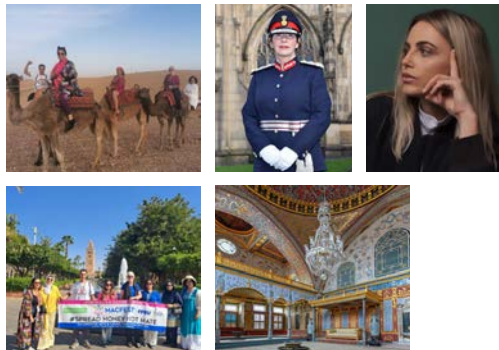
There is something for everyone: welcome speeches, Afghani women art exhibition, styles of calligraphy by Samar Farooq, presentation on famous palaces by Sara Adio, music by Zakariya of GNAWA group, greetings by youth from around the world and celebration of our 5 years of MACFEST.

Tilawat - recitation from the Holy Quran by: Khalil Mohammed, Casablanca, Morocco.

Hosted by: Myriam Francois, Journalist, Filmmaker and Writer.

Chief Guest: Mrs D Hawkins JP LLB, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester.

Sponsored by: University of Bolton.





Ottoman Encounters, Henrietta Liston's Travels and Turkish Responses - Hello from Scotland!

Date: Saturday, 18th February

Time: 15.00 - 16.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us to explore Henrietta Liston's Regency-era encounters with Ottoman women, together with responses to her writings 200 years later by figures such as Turkish novelist and political commentator Ece Temelkuran and botanical illustrator Işık Güner.

Thanks in part to their colonial legacies, Scottish libraries often hold surprisingly rich collections of material produced by and for Muslim women. But Muslim women most often appear in our archives in the accounts of Western writers and travellers, where they may be left voiceless, misrepresented, and orientalised. This presents libraries and readers with difficult questions and challenges.

Henrietta Liston – diplomat's consort, travel writer and botanist – resided in Istanbul from 1812 to 1820. Her journals and letters, held in the National Library of Scotland's Liston Papers Archive, describe in detail her encounters with Ottoman women, their arts, crafts and cuisine, the harem, Ottoman religious practices, and the Empires minority communities.

This event will look at Liston's travel writing in the light of some of the questions the Archive raises, and set it alongside creative twenty-first century responses by Turkish women.

Presented by: National Library of Scotland curators Patrick Hart, Dora Petherbridge, Dr Berrak Burçak and colleagues.





Islamophobia: Muslims in Europe and the USA

Date: Sunday, 19th February

Time: 15.00 - 16.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for a lively discussion on the topic of Islamophobia, with a panel of an amazing group of Muslims.

What is it like for British Muslims in the UK and around the world, faced with anti-Muslim hatred and the rise in hate crimes? What are the solutions?

With:

- Germany: Emel Oz Firker, teacher.
- Scotland: Zara Mohammed, Secretary-General of Muslim Council of Britain.
- New York, USA: Imam Shamsi Ali, Interfaith activist, author and President of Nusantara Foundation.

Hosted by: Dr Myriam Francois, Journalist, Filmmaker and Writer.



Comedy and laughter with Prince Abdi

Date: Sunday, 19th February

Time: 18.00 - 19.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join Prince Abdi, a stand-up comedian from South London and born in Somalia, for a bellyful of laughter!

He has performed all over the world and graced the stage with many renowned comedians such as Dave Chappelle, Chris Rock, Louie CK, Michael McIntyre, Trevor Noah.

Hosted by: Nabz Pat, writer and stand-up comedian.



MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES FESTIVAL

Islamic Collections at Manchester Museum, UK

Date: Saturday, 10th June

Time: 14.00 - 15.00

Venue: Manchester Museum,
Oxford Road, M13 9PL

Tickets: Free, register on
Eventbrite



Manchester Museum Curators share a selection of objects from the museum Islamic collection.

We hope you are able to join us in-person, in our brand-new South Asia gallery for an informative and interactive session. We will be focusing on some key objects and their narratives to highlight their Islamic significance.

Hosted by: Nusrat Ahmed, South Asia Gallery Community Producer.



Stories and storytelling in Islamic manuscript - John Rylands Library, Manchester, UK

Date: Thursday, 22nd June

Time: 17.30 - 18.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on
Eventbrite



Join researcher Jake Benson to discover the myriad tales and spell-binding illustrations found in the Islamic manuscripts at Manchester's John Rylands Library. This virtual event will take you up-close and personal with storytelling traditions from across the Islamic world.

Jake will turn the pages of some of the Rylands's most beautiful illustrated manuscripts, written in Arabic, Farsi and Turkish. From the famous telling by Scheherazade of the 'Thousand and One Nights', to animal fables like Kalilah wa Dimna and tales of star-crossed lovers, you are sure to be enchanted.

Introduced by: Elizabeth Gow, manuscript curator.



Films, Films: In conversation with actor Aqib Khan

Date: Wednesday, 21st June

Time: 18.00 - 19.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join Aqib Khan, the famous actor who starred in a popular film 'West is West' in conversation with Syirin Said.

Aqib will share his wonderful journey as a Bradford boy into the world of acting and to being on the big screen with his important role in the famous film *West Is West*.

Syirin will also share her love and passion for working in the TV industry.

Hosted by: Syirin Said, voice artist, model and TV host.



House of Wisdom Exhibition

Date: Sunday, 25th June

Time: 14.00 - 15.00

Venue: Digital

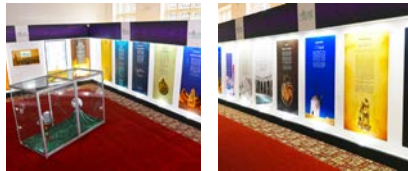
Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

The House of Wisdom Exhibition, developed by the British Muslim Heritage Centre in Manchester, showcases the amazing contributions of Muslims to civilization.

Find out about some of the remarkable achievements made by Muslim scholars, inventors and scientists that still benefit billions around the world in so many amazing areas such as: education, astronomy, medicine, architecture, mathematics, engineering, science, technology - and much more.

Hosted by: Shafiq Saddiq, Head of Education, The British Muslim Heritage Centre.

Introduced by: Saima Alvi, Vice Chair of British Muslim Heritage Centre.





Celebrating Islamic artefacts and manuscripts in Mohammed Bin Rashid Library, United Arab Emirates

Date: Sunday, 16th July

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting session on Islamic artefacts from the biggest and amazing Mohammed Bin Rashid Library of Dubai.

Visit the 7th floor Museum gallery with its excellent collection of calligraphic and other tools for books and manuscripts: inkwells, pen cases, scissors, and knives. Learn about some of the manuscripts, copies of the Holy Quran, beginnings of the Arabic printing and about the early Arabic books collection which show the transfer of knowledge from East to West.

Presented by: David Gerald HIRSCH, Advisor for Library Services.

Hosted by: Harmesh Manghra, former Her Majesty's Inspector for Ofsted.



A Humanistic Exchange: Early Modern Islamic Manuscripts and Maps in Chicago - Hello from Chicago, USA!

Date: Tuesday, 18th July

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for a riveting session on Islamic manuscripts from Chicago, USA!

Chicago's Newberry Library owns a select group of little-known, pre-1800 Islamic manuscripts and printed maps ranging from world exploration and astronomy to devotional texts. From small volumes illustrated by hand to massive woodblocks, these treasures also include a mostly-blank album of gloriously colored and patterned paper produced as a collaboration between East and West.

Join this session to learn about the ways studying complex objects like these which enrich existing historical narratives.

Introduced by: Dr. Lia Markey, the Newberry Library Director of the Center for Renaissance Studies.

Hosted by: Newberry Library Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, Dr. Suzanne Karr Schmidt.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

Book your place via www.macfest.org.uk and Eventbrite. Digital events take place over zoom and the links needed to join will be sent nearer to the time of the event. Stay up to date with our Eventbrite for any changes of dates and times.





Islam, Culture and Environment: Are Muslims Environmentalists?

Date: Saturday, 30th July

Time: 14.00 - 15.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join us for a conversation with Zarina Ahmad, to reflect on what it's like to be a Muslim and an environmentalist.

Zarina will share some personal anecdotes and experiences as well as exploring what is said in Islam, what is written in The Holy Quran, and what we can learn from the saying of the Hadiths.

Zarina's lifelong passion for the environment begins with her belief that protecting nature and our planet, ensuring humans don't exploit the land of its resources, and that we treat each other with kindness and respect are all fundamental teachings of Islam.

Hosted by: Asma Younas, host & radio presenter.

Chief Guest: Dr Mohammed Ali, Director of QED, advisor to MACFEST.



YOUTH FESTIVAL

Celebrating Mother Tongue Language: Hopwood Hall College - Hello from Rochdale!

Date: Friday, 17th February

Time: 13.00 - 15.00

Venue: Hopwood Hall College,
St. Mary's Gate, Rochdale, OL12 6RY

Tickets: Invitation Only



To celebrate MACFEST, Hopwood Hall College will be holding a poetry festival to showcase poems both in English and other languages.

This will be on Friday, 17th February to coincide with International Mother Language Day.

Hosted by: ESOL team - Laura Wiggin ESOL Programme Manager.

Chief Guest: Julia Heap, Principal and CEO.



Celebrating Muslim Art and Culture: Withington Girl's School

Date: Tuesday, 21st February

Time: All Day

Venue: Wellington Rd,
Fallowfield, Manchester M14 6BL

Tickets: Invitation Only



We are looking forward to hosting our special Culture Day, celebrating the different cultures and traditions of the diversity of our pupils.

Activities will include a 'round the world' tasting menu, an assembly performance of dance, music and drama, express through dress' and specially themed lessons.

As part of the lead up to the day, pupils will create a 'shared cultures' art piece that will reflect and honour the rich diversity of our school community.

Hosted by Jen Baylis, Deputy Head and our pupil-led Religious Societies and EDI team.

Special Guests: Mrs Sarah Haslam, WGS Governors.





Celebrating Cultural Heritage

Date: Thursday, 23rd February

Time: 18.00 - 19.30

Venue: Digital

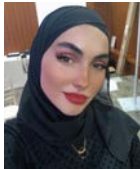
Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for a cultural feast from around the world!

School students will celebrate the cultural heritage of their country of origin. We have a feast of topics for you. They will be introduced by their teachers or Headteachers.

- Jawad Rasool (Year 11)- Phillips High School Bury
- Canon Slade Sixth Form College, Bolton, UK
- Teeba Rahmatalla from Altrincham Grammar School for Girls.
- Burnage Academy for Boys, Manchester.
- Tareq Ahmed from Dean Trust Ardwick, Manchester.

Hosted by: Luljeta Halimi, Researcher/Production, Islam channel.



Celebrating Muslim Art and Culture at AGGS

Date: Monday, 27th February - Friday, 3rd March

Time: All Day

Venue: Altrincham Grammar School for Girls, Cavendish Road, Bowdon, Altrincham WA14 2NL

Tickets: Invitation Only

At Altrincham Grammar School for Girls there will be influences from Muslim art and culture in lessons across the school, lunchtime activities and special guest workshops. A real celebration of our school's diverse cultural heritage.

Hosted by: Laura Anstey Head of the dance department, anti-racism champion and Ms Stephanie Gill, Principal, Altrincham Grammar School for Girls.



Altrincham Grammar School for Girls
BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST





International Youth Speak out on Environment!

Date: Sunday, 19th March

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to host a special panel with young people from five countries!

School students will share their thoughts about the environment relating to their countries. They will also discuss possible solutions to protect the environment and detect the problems. They will be introduced by their teachers or Headteachers.

- Manchester Grammar School, United Kingdom
- Khalil Louay - School Al Yassamin Berrechid, Morocco.
- Fauziyyah Lawal Crescent College, Lagos, Nigeria.
- Alina Hashmi- Grammar School Vice Head Girl Lahore, Pakistan.
- Yousha Mikyle Hashmi - Carlsbad High School, California, USA.
- Zahra Aly - Cardiff High School, Cardiff, UK
- Hassan Aly - St John's College, Cardiff, UK

Hosted by: Professor Sorhaila Latip-Yusoph, multi-media practitioner and educator, Mindanao State University, Marawi, Philippines.

Chief Guest: Dr Benjamin Eves, MPhys. Assistant Headteacher, Canon Slade School, Bolton, UK.



Teachers speak out! Celebrating Arts, Cultures, and Heritage in Schools and Colleges

Date: Tuesday, 21st March

Time: 18.00 - 19.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to host our first MACFEST Teachers panel.

Join teachers from the North West schools and colleges, as they share their good practise in celebrating diversity.

Learn about their excellent art, heritage and cultural activities they planned and hosted to celebrate MACFEST Days in their schools and colleges.

- Kirsty Swift from Freehold Community Primary Academy
- Laura Anstey from Altrincham Grammar School for Girls
- Jamila Kossar from Islamic Grammar School for Girls
- Laura Wiggins, Hopwood Hall College
- Michelle McLaughlin, Stockport College
- Anam Majid, Newman Catholic College

Hosted by: Andrew Nowell, Journalist, Manchester World.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

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Children's books with Khaleel Muhammed

Date: Saturday, 25th March

Time: 14.00 - 15.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join Khaleel Muhammad, an internationally renowned Nasheed artist and an author, talking about his children's book, Muslim All-Stars. His discussion will revolve around action and adventure with Islamic themes in contemporary times.

Khaleel designed and illustrated the children's books Allah's Amazing Messenger (pbuh) by S.J. Sear, Adam's Adventures by Mariah Derissy, and his own Muslim Family Colouring Book. Khaleel's books are aimed at Muslim tweens (9-12) age group.

On television he has presented Khaleel's Make & Do Art Show, and The Muslim Kids Show. He has appeared in several television shows, adverts, and the Disney film Cinderella and is currently creator of Iqra Kids TV on Iqra TV.

Hosted by: Jennifer Ogunyemi - Founder & CEO of Sisters In Business.

Chief Guest: Ivan Wadeson, Executive Director, Manchester City of Literature.



Whalley Range 11-18 High School: Celebrating art and diversity

Date: Monday, 27th March -
Friday, 31st March

Time: 10.00 - 14.00

Venue: Wilbraham Road,
Manchester M16 8GW

Tickets: Invitation Only

The event will feature music and Dabke from different countries; Nasheed; Urdu Poem; presentations about the influence of Islam in Spain, France and Germany; and a presentation about Pakistani culture.

Students from KS3 and KS4 will have the opportunity to see a short film 1001 Invention, during their language lessons in that week. In addition to a variety of cultural activities which include cultural clothes, art workshop, and Calligraphy.

Hosted by: Jackie Fahey, Academy Headteacher, Kholoud Khaleel teacher.





Freehold Festival: Celebrating our Cultural Heritage

Date: Tuesday, 18th - Thursday, 20th April

Time: 10.00 - 14.00

Venue: Freehold Community Academy, Sidmouth Street, Oldham, OL9 7RG

Tickets: Invitation Only

Staff at Freehold Primary Community `school are very excited to host another MACFEST.

This year their festival will be hosted for three days with the entire school, including the nursery. Pupils will take part in exciting workshops, celebrate their cultures, and meet and listen to the stories of some inspiring Muslims. Parents and governors will join in the fun, by exploring and celebrating their cultural heritage.

To celebrate the month of Ramadan, on 19th April, the school will host their first iftar (breaking of the fast) for the parents and members of the local community, Muslims and non-Muslims.

Hosted by: Mrs Maher, Principal, Freehold Community Primary Academy, Oldham.



City of Liverpool College - Hello from Liverpool

Date: Wednesday, 27th April

Time: 12.00 - 15.00

Venue: Roscoe St, Liverpool L1 9DW

Tickets: Invitation Only

Liverpool City College offers an art and cultural feast to celebrate Eid-UI-Fitr. Hosted by the ESOL department, students and teachers will showcase an art exhibition, including by Muslim artists as well as enjoy the performance by local Muslim singers and international cuisine!

Hosted by: Frank Viola, Deputy Head of School - ESOL, City of Liverpool College.



Celebrating Muslim Heritage: Cheadle, Stockport and Trafford Colleges

Date: Tuesday, 15th -
Wednesday, 16th March

Time: All day

Venue: Manchester Rd,
West Timperley, Timperley,
Altrincham WA14 5PQ

Tickets: Invitation Only



The Trafford College Group is proud to announce that they will be hosting MACFEST in March 2023!

Join us for a range of art and cultural activities with staff and students to celebrate diversity and Muslim heritage. They are delighted at the opportunity to celebrate the Muslim Arts and Culture Festival: with their community partners, Trafford and Stockport and Cheadale Colleges.

Welcome message from Chief host, James Scott, Principal and CEO, Trafford College Group:

Our partnership with the Muslim Arts and Culture Festival is of great value to The Trafford College Group, and we look forward to many more collaborations to confirm our connection.



Manchester Islamic School for Girls: Celebrating Eid-UI-Fitr

Date: Tuesday, 9th May

Time: All Day

Venue: 55 High Ln, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester M21 9FA

Tickets: Invitation Only



Manchester Islamic Grammar School for Girls is delighted to take part in MACFEST again.

Last year they celebrated diversity and cultural heritage of their students and teachers. This year they will be celebrating Eid-UI-Fitr with various cultural activities.

Hosted by: Mona Youssef Mohamed, Head Teacher, Manchester Islamic Grammar School for Girls and Jamila Kossar, Senior Leadership team.





Manchester Academy School Celebrate Being Plastic Free!

Date: Tuesday, 23rd May

Time: All day

Venue: Moss Lane East, Moss Side, M14 4PX

Tickets: Invitation Only

Manchester Academy School will celebrate Climate Change and the Environment. It's a day to learn about the environment, participate in conservation activities, and learn about ways to help in the future.

Hosted by: Principal James Eldon, and Saima Baksh, Tahani Anani, teachers.



Celebrating Diversity and Culture: Newman RC College

Date: Thursday, 15th June

Time: All day

Venue: Newman RC College, Broadway, Chadderton, OL9 9QY

Tickets: Invitation Only

To celebrate our diverse community of Muslims here at Newman RC College, the group will be celebrating and learning about a Muslim country each year.

Each year, the group will focus on the celebration of faith through exploring religious art, religious dress, and religious artifacts from different countries.

Mrs Sophie McNee, Assistant Headteacher for faith and community.

Special Guest: Mr. Bernard O'Toole, Chair of Governors.





Muslim Women's — Arts Festival —

Celebrating & Elevating Muslim Women

Over 20 Events!
March - June 2023

Saturday, 4th March 2022, 10.00am
The Whitworth Art Gallery



@MuslimWomensArtsFoundation
@mwartfoundation

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



MACFEST
MUSLIM ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL



Welcome to the Muslim Women's Arts Festival!

Welcome to the second Muslim Women's Arts Festival! Supported by Muslim Women's Arts Foundation.

We are delighted to offer you a feast celebrating Muslim Women in the creative industries from the North West and across the world!

Join us on 4th March at the Whitworth Art Gallery.

We have a marvellous selection of events in store for the whole family, including art exhibitions, Turkish folk dance, cultural hubs, mandala making workshops, performances, as well as many other fun activities.

An exciting opportunity for the whole family to explore their creativity whilst guided by the expertise of Muslim female artists!

Nearly all of our events are free. Donations are welcomed.

Thank you for joining us!



Qaisra Shahraz MBE JP

Founder and Executive Director of Muslim Women's Arts Foundation





Culture, Arts, Poetry and Performance: Celebrating 5 Years of MACFEST!

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: 12.00 - 13.30

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,
Oxford Road, Manchester,
M15 6ER

Tickets: £10, Includes Lunch

Join us in celebrating 5 years of MACFEST!

There is something for everyone:

- Welcome speeches; greetings from partners and Muslim women in different languages.
- Performances by Turkish Folk Dance group, Sudanese Supplementary School, and Dabke by Manchester Arabic School.
- Poetry by Amir Arshad and Lydia Merrill.
- Music by U.K. Sufi Hip Hop Group with Ismael Lea South and Rakin Niass.
- Art exhibitions and cake cutting.
- Iranian dress by Yaran North West.
- Singing by Fadi Edel

Tilavat by: Lamar Babiker.

Hosted by: Sandra Wong, Solicitor.

Welcome address by: Qaisra Shahraz MBE and Ed Watts, Head of Learning and Engagement, the Whitworth Art Gallery.

Chief Guest: Mrs D Hawkins JP LLB, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester.

Sponsored by: Centre for Muslim States and Societies, The University of Western Australia, Australia and Coolzy.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN
AUSTRALIA

Centre for Muslim States and Societies

وَمَنْ يُؤْتَ الْحِكْمَةَ فَقَدْ أُوتِيَ خَيْرًا كَثِيرًا
*and he to whom wisdom is granted receiveth indeed a benefit overflowing' (Al-Baqarah 2:289)



ALL DAY ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Henna Painting for Adults

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for a fun and creative activity for adults, henna painting with Atika Shakir!



Hijab Styling

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting hijab styling session with Uzma Farooq!



Hair and Makeup

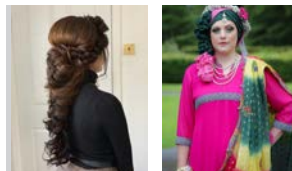
Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting session about the art of hair styling and makeup and beauty with Amber Mirza!



Card Making Workshop with Farhat Javid

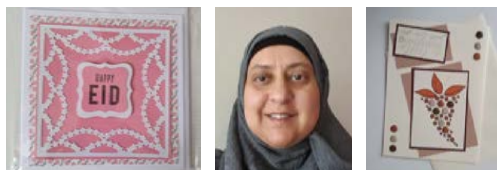
Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us with Farhat Kalsoom Javid for a fascinating and intricate card making session!



Face Painting

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Bring along your children to this fun packed face painting session with Nataliya Stefurak.



Ebru Marble Painting

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting activity for children to get creative with marble painting with Rabia Avcı.



Calligraphy Workshop

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting calligraphy demonstration for children with Farzana Patel from Blackburn.



Cultural Hubs

Date: Saturday 4th March

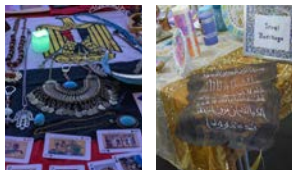
Time: 10.30 - 11.30

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for an art, culture, and heritage feast! Explore our cultural hub presentations from around the world, curated by our local Muslim women.

Palestinian - Tahani Anam, Kurdish - Sheba Arts, Iranian - Yaron North West, Bangladesh - Saki Chowdhury, Pakistan/Kashmir - Kaanat women Group, Libya - Nafeesa Madani, Sudan - Hind Gaily.



ALL DAY EXHIBITIONS

Art Exhibition by Atefeh Seifi

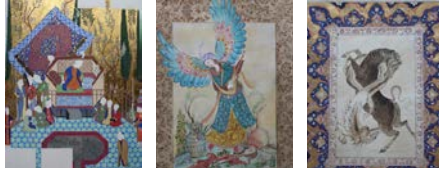
Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to showcase an art exhibition by Atefeh Seifi from Bury.



Art Exhibiton by Natalia Stefurak

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to showcase an art exhibition by Nataliya Stefurak, a Ukrainian-born artist and Muslim convert from Trafford.



Art Exhibiton by Ashfia Ashrif

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to showcase an art exhibition by Ashfia Ashrif from Altrincham.



Art Exhibiton by Rahela Khan

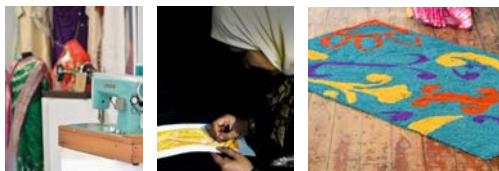
Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day (from 10.30)

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery,

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to showcase an art exhibition by Rahela Khan from Rochdale.





Art Exhibition by Yaran North West Manchester

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day

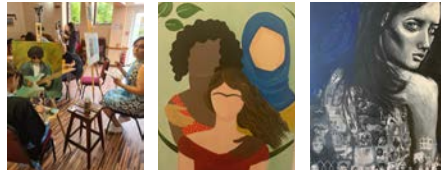
Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

On the occasion of the celebration of International Women's Week, Yaran North West.

Manchester presents the exhibition "Take it easy", a collection by international artists not-known in the Middle East. The artists represented come from countries such as Iran and Afghanistan.

Yaran has been commissioned from the National Lottery fund to present more than 20 works, featuring work by women painters from countries such as Iran and Afghanistan expressing their feelings within the paintings.



Art Exhibition by Sheba Arts

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to showcase an art exhibition by Beena Nouri, an artist working with Sheba Arts, Greater Manchester.



Art Exhibition by Asuman Dokuzlu

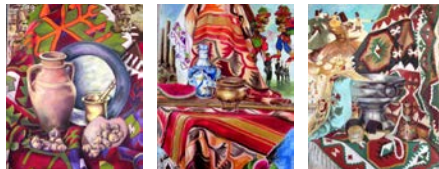
Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: All Day

Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

We are delighted to showcase an art exhibition by Asuman Dokuzlu from Turkey.



Writer and Broadcaster: In Conversation with Myriam Francois

Date: Monday, 6th March

Time: 18.00 - 19.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join Dr Myriam Francois, an Irish-French writer, broadcaster, and documentary film director for an exciting evening celebrating International Women Week in conversation with Munira Alsusa.

She will talk about her new series on Al Jazeera "France in Focus", her latest documentary film for the BBC and storytelling as a Muslim creative.

Hosted by: Munira Alsusa, EAL coordinator, GCSE examiner and Arabic Supplementary school Headteacher.



Photography: Issues of culture and identity with Maha Alasaker

Date: Friday, 10th March

Time: 18.00 - 19.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join Maha Alasaker, a visual artist and a photographer, based in Kuwait.

She will discuss how, through her artwork, she tries to gain a deeper understanding of herself while attempting to engage issues of culture and identity. Her curiosity centers around how a woman's upbringing affects identity and self-worth.

Maha's projects have been displayed in numerous exhibitions in New York City, London, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. Magazines such as Harper's Bazaar, Vogue, Marie Claire, and Rolling Stone have featured her work.

In 2019, Maha published her first photo book, "Women of Kuwait", which was then acquired by the Getty Research Institute and The Thomas J. Watson Library at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Hosted by: Dr Becky Alexis Martin, Lecturer in Human Geography at Manchester Metropolitan University and an award-winning photographer.





CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023!

British Muslim Women in the Cultural and Creative Industries

Date: Wednesday, 8th March

Time: 10.00 - 11.30

Venue: Kanaris Lecture theatre, Manchester Museum, University of Manchester, M13 9PR

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite | Refreshments Provided

Welcome to a special symposium on Muslim women creatives with Dr Saskia Warren and Raabia Hussain.

In this talk Dr Saskia Warren, an author and a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography will discuss some key findings from her new book, *British Muslim Women in the Cultural and Creative Industries* (2022, EUP). Research commissioned by the Equality and Human Rights Commission highlights that only a minority of UK-based surveys have asked questions which might contribute to an understanding of religious discrimination and even fewer ask about religious discrimination openly.

Drawing on examples, she will explore how religion/faith interrelate with other indexes of difference, reshaping work-lives and the changing morphology of society, culture, and public life.

Raabia Hussain, an award-winning adventure filmmaker, Activist from Manchester, will share her experience as a filmmaker. Her accolades include the award-winning documentary, *Two Deaf Travellers* and the Programme, *This is Deaf*.

As an international humanitarian activist, Raabia will share how she inspires and helps people, especially from the ethnic minority groups, to represent themselves in front of, and behind, the camera.

Introduced by: Prof John McAuliffe, poet, Co-Director, University of Manchester's Centre for New Writing.

Hosted by: Dr Jenna Ashton, artist, curator, and producer, and Lecturer in Heritage Studies at the Institute for Cultural Practices, University of Manchester.

In partnership with Creative Manchester, University of Manchester.

creativemcr





Women's Movements, Tradition and Islamic Narratives in the Arabian Gulf

Date: Wednesday, 8th March

Time: 13.00 - 14.30

Venue: Digital

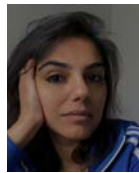
Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

This panel aims to shed new light on the Muslim female world of the Arabian Gulf, given the rising role of women in education, politics, culture and the media in this region. The relationship between culture and communication has been changing, and women are more and more active protagonists in this process.

The three speakers, Dr. Rafiah Al-Talei, Dr. Hend T. Alsudairy and Dr. Mira Al Hussein from Oman, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, respectively, are researchers specialising in feminist movements and women's rights. They will discuss their direct and personal experiences and research on feminist trends in the Gulf Arab region, addressing the social reactions to feminism in their respective countries, more and more involved in the international debates and intercultural dialogue, at the global level. All of this makes the panel of interest to the layperson and experts of the region.

Hosted by: Dr. Elena Maestri, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Italy.

Chief Guest: High Sheriff of Greater Manchester, Lorraine Worsley-Carter, MBE DL.





Three centuries of Travel Writing by Muslim Women

Date: Wednesday, 8th March

Time: 18.00 - 19.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: £8, Register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting International Women's Day event on Muslim women writers! Professor Siobhan Lambert-Hurley will be talking about her new book *'Three centuries of Travel Writing by Muslim Women'*.

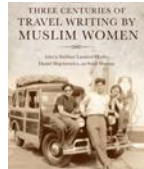
This illustrated talk will look at the fascinating first-hand accounts of travel by Muslim women dating from the 17th to the mid-20th century. Challenging preconceived notions, it offers an insight into how these daring and diverse women such as queens, captives, pilgrims, and provocateurs explored the world. What unites these adventurers is a concern for the other women they encounter, their willingness to record their experiences and the constant thoughts they cast homewards. The book is co-edited with Daniel Majchrowicz and Sunil Sharma.

Presented by: Siobhan Lambert-Hurley is Professor of Global History, University of Sheffield.

Hosted by: Dr Nafhesa Ali, Lecturer in Social Sciences, Northumbria University, Newcastle.

Chief Guest: Michelle Hodgson, Director of Huddersfield Literature Festival.

In partnership with Huddersfield Literature Festival.





In Conversation with Fatima Manji, Author, Broadcaster: A Fresh Perspective on British history

Date: Saturday, 11th March

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: £10, Register on
Eventbrite

Simon Guerrier, writer, producer and author of Sherlock Holmes, will be in conversation with the award-winning author and broadcaster Fatima Manji talking about her new book. *A Fresh Perspective on British History*.

Fatima Manji will be exploring and answering some of the following questions: Why was there a Turkish mosque adorning Britain's most famous botanic garden in the eighteenth century? How did a pair of Persian-inscribed cannons end up in rural Wales? And who is the Moroccan man depicted in a long-forgotten portrait hanging in a west London stately home?

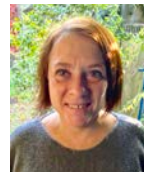
Throughout Britain's museums, civic buildings and stately homes, relics can be found that reveal the diversity of pre-twentieth-century Britain and expose the misconceptions around modern immigration narratives. In her journey across Britain exploring cultural landmarks, Fatima Manji searches for a richer and more honest story of a nation struggling with identity and the legacy of the empire.

'A timely, brilliant and very brave book' Jerry Brotton,
author of *This Orient Isle*.

Hosted by: Simon Guerrier, writer, producer, author of *Sherlock Holmes - The Great War (Titan, 2021)* and chair of the Books Committee for the Writers' Guild of Great Britain.

Chief Guest: Sam Ingleson, Associate Dean of Engagement & Enterprise, School of Arts, Media and Creative Technology.

Supported by: University of Salford, School of Arts, Media & Creative Technology.



Afghani Women Artists: Freedom of expression through art - Hello from Afghanistan

Date: Sunday, 12th March

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting panel with 4 female artists from Kabul: Sahra Sarwari, Sanam Azimi, Mursal Ahmadi, Sadaf Danish.

The Afghani women artists will share their individual exhibitions of paintings. They will also discuss what it is like as artists, as women creatives, living in Afghanistan under the Taliban rule.

Hosted by: Angelika Hoff, M.A., Teacher Training College Stuttgart, Germany.

Chief Guest: Chris Sacarbany, Executive Director of Foundation for Ethnic Understanding and MACFEST advisor.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

Book your place via www.macfest.org.uk and Eventbrite. Digital events take place over zoom and the links needed to join will be sent nearer to the time of the event. Stay up to date with our Eventbrite for any changes of dates and times.



Women and Weddings - Hello from Egypt, Morocco and Sudan!

Date: Saturday, 18th March

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

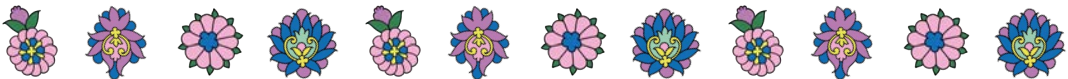
Weddings are magical experiences, full of happiness and joy and you are invited to join us for a feast of three North African weddings!

Become our guest for an Egyptian, Moroccan and Sudanese wedding. Learn how these countries prepare for weddings and about their wedding rituals; see the mouth-watering wedding feast, and listen to the traditional wedding music and songs.

Don't miss this breath taking opportunity to experience these amazing weddings!!

Presented by: Alaa Zalat, Egyptian; Hanane El Hadioue, Moroccan; and Hind Gaily, Sudanese.

Chief Guest: Sharman Birtles MBE JP DL, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

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WORKSHOPS

Creative Art Doodling Workshop

Date: Tuesday, 30 May

Time: 18.00 - 19.30

Venue: Digital

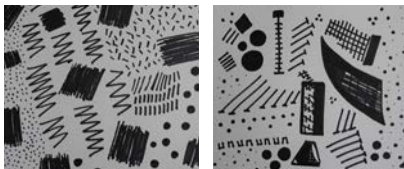
Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

As part of our Youth Festival, dive into the world of Creative Art Doodling!

Explore the endless possibilities of where your imagination takes you with this new exciting workshop. This creative session also looks at the amazing well-being benefits of doodling too.

To take part in this workshop the materials needed are: a black marker/sharpie and paper.

Workshop by: Amina.S Art & Design



Mandala making and exhibition with Zareena Bano

Date: Saturday, 4th March

Time: 13.30 - 15.00

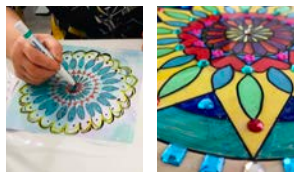
Venue: Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, Manchester M15 6ER

Tickets: £5, Register on Eventbrite

Discover the meditative practice of mandala making. Find out about its history, meaning, types, colours, benefits, how they are used and mandalas in Persian art.

Mandalas have a deep history connected to meditation and spirituality, dating back centuries from around the world. Come along and join in a creative mandala making workshop exploring different techniques and mediums.

Hear about Zareena's artistic journey and see some of her artwork on display including a poem she penned. Be inspired to create your very own personal mandala to make and take away.



In Conversation with Artist: Farwa Moledina

Date: Tuesday, 14th March

Time: 18.00 - 19.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: £5, Register on Eventbrite

Farwa Moledina is an artist interested in female Muslim identity. She is most interested in how the western historical art narrative portrays the Muslim woman, and whether this has impacted how Muslim women are viewed in the contemporary world.

Moledina explores these issues through the use of pattern and textile. The patterns she designs are inspired by the Islamic Design Principles, such as those of recurrence, symmetry and abstraction.

Join Moledina for a talk about her practice, and the influence of Islamic design principles in her work.

Hosted by: Seema Ansari, Education Consultant.

Chief Guest: Sarah Mangan, Consul General of Ireland.



Turkish Calligraphy

Date: Sunday, 26th March

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: £5, Register on Eventbrite

Welcome to Turkish Calligraphy! MACFEST is delighted to host globally renowned master calligrapher, Nuria Garcia Masip from Turkey for a demonstration and discussion on Ottoman calligraphy. Nuria will talk about her journey and artistic path of Calligraphy, and how she drew on her experience in learning from two great Turkish masters Hasan Çelebi and Davut Bektaş.

Nuria will offer a brief historical introduction, and an overview of the traditional teaching methods, tools and materials. As well as introducing us to the Ottoman classical tradition.

Hosted by: Catherine Thornhill, Head Bookworm at the ShelterBox Book Club.

Chief Guest: Seyfi Onur Sayin, General Consul of Turkey.



Turkish Floral Art

Date: Wednesday, 3rd May

Time: 13.30 - 15.30

Venue: Elizabeth Gaskell House, 84 Plymouth Grove, Manchester M13 9LW

Tickets: £5 Register on Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting Turkish/Ottoman illuminated floral arts workshop with Ashfia Ashrif, an artist and a student of Tehzip/ illumination.

During the demonstration she will also speak about her journey as an artist and showcase some of her work.

Introduced by: Fiona Fulton, Neighbourhood Engagement Officer.



Silk Painting Workshop

Date: Saturday, 13th May

Time: 13.00 - 15.00

Venue: Central Library, St Peter's Square, Manchester M2 5PD

Tickets: £5, Register on Eventbrite

Join us for a creative session with Aysha on silk painting!

In this workshop, motifs and designs from The Silk Road (Iran, Uzbekistan, Turkey etc.) will be used to produce a Silk Painting. Aysha will demonstrate how to apply the design to the Silk fabric from a drawing, followed by techniques of filling in with Silk paints.

A briefing will be given by Aysha on how Silk is produced and its origins. She will also touch upon the origins of the motifs used.

Hosted by: Danny Middleton, Service Development Officer, Central Library.



Women and creativity: Celebrating the historic art of Palestinian Embroidery

Date: Saturday, 3 June

Time: 14.00 -15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join Yasmeen Bsaiso from Kuwait to explore how Palestinian women used to embroider exotic pieces that survived multiple generations till date.

Learn about the historic art of Palestinian Embroidery. Yasmeen will be drawing on her roots and readings, and the hands-on practice sessions she had with old Palestinian women. She will give an overview of Palestinian embroidery for the period 1850 to 1950 and tell stories around the history of design, colour and fabrics used across Palestine.

Yasmeen will also demonstrate a live practice of embroidery with a one beautiful motif. That was found on dresses over hundreds of years, and that symbolises the love of land and community.

Hosted by: Neena Julka, Founder Trustee & CEO of SNJ Charitable Trust.

Chief Guest: Afzal Khan CBE, Labour MP for Manchester Gorton, Shadow Minister for Justice.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

Book your place via www.macfest.org.uk and Eventbrite. Digital events take place over zoom and the links needed to join will be sent nearer to the time of the event. Stay up to date with our Eventbrite for any changes of dates and times.



NORTH WEST FESTIVAL

Tameside MACFEST

Date: Monday, 15th May

Time: 17.00 - 20.00

Venue: 4C Community Centre,
Taunton Road, Ashton-Under-
Lyne,
OL7 9DR

Tickets: Free, register on
Eventbrite - 30 Spaces available

Welcome to Tameside MACFEST!

Khush Amdid educates and empowers women to have good mental health and well-being and be active participants in the community.

Join Khush Amdid for an Amazing Tameside Eid Celebration, and a great get-together with our diverse Tameside communities!

Prepare to be mesmerised by the skills of amazing Henna Design and Creativity. Enjoy delicious Authentic Asian Food that is specially prepared for Eid Celebration.

Browse stalls for the latest fashion wear and matching bangles.

Special Guests and Tameside Councillors as key speakers.

Chief Guest: Mayor of Tameside, Cllr Mike Gullivers.





Bury MACFEST

Date: Saturday, 27th May

Time: 14.00 - 17.00

Venue: Bury Met Theatre,
Market St, Bury BL9 0BW

Tickets: Free, Register on
Eventbrite



Welcome to Bury MACFEST! Join us for a journey through the Middle East in the West with The BAME Project.

Prepare to be mesmerised by South Asian Fashion and for your breath to be taken away by the art of South Asian Dancing. Aesthetic Arabic Calligraphy, Entertainment, Heavenly Henna, Painting, Authentic Asian Food tasters all under one roof!

All this and more to be explored!

Chief Guest: Qaisra Shahraz MBE, MACFEST executive Director.



Women and Memoir Writing - Hello from Kirklees!

Date: Saturday, 1st July

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on
Eventbrite

Join us for an exciting literary afternoon from Dewsbury, Kirklees, Yorkshire! We are delighted to partner with the Literary Circle of Kirklees and Creative Scene again for MACFEST 2023.

The women poets led by Fara Butt, from Dewsbury will present and share extracts from their memoir writing they are working on in 2023. This focuses on the history, experiences and stories of migration from their fathers and elderly relatives who came to the UK as migrants.

Hosted by: Fara Butt, Author.

Chief Guest: Nancy Barrett, Director, Creative Scene, Kirklees.





Bolton MACFEST

Date: Saturday, 17th July

Time: All Day

Venue: Central Library,
Crompton Place Shopping
Centre, BL1 1DF

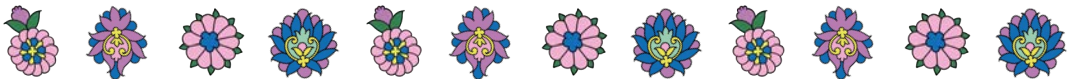
Tickets: Free, Register on
Eventbrite

Muslim Arts and Culture Festival goes to Bolton for the third time!

The Sunnyside Club is proud to host MACFEST, and celebrate the diversity of the town. A diverse range of local Bolton Muslim artists and poets will showcase their works and talents. The event will be live streamed on Facebook and via zoom (if COVID-19 restrictions are in place) or we may meet in a local venue with social distancing measures.

Register on Eventbrite and the details will be released closer to the time of the event.

Bolton MACFEST 2023 is supported by Bolton Council's Library and Museum Service and Bolton at Home.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

Book your place via www.macfest.org.uk and Eventbrite. Digital events take place over zoom and the links needed to join will be sent nearer to the time of the event. Stay up to date with our Eventbrite for any changes of dates and times.



RAMADHAN FESTIVAL

German students enjoy the multi-cultural city of Manchester - Hello from Germany!

Date: Wednesday, 22nd March

Time: 19.30 - 22.00

Venue: Khizra Mosque, 25
Cheetham Hill Road, Cheetham
Hill, Manchester M8 0PF

Tickets: Free, Register on
Eventbrite

MACFEST is delighted to welcome and host a large group of German students, their teacher Ms Emel Oz Firker and head teacher, Maria Zerhusen from Vocational College Peine, Germany in Manchester.

Apart from sightseeing, visiting Withington Girls School the students will have an excellent opportunity to learn about the month of Ramadhan, the diverse communities of Manchester, and enjoy a breaking of the fast iftar meal at Khizra mosque.

Chief Guest: Councillor Rabnawaz Akbar, Director of MACFEST UK



Celebrating Ramadan and Tunisian Cultural Heritage - Hello from Tunisia!

Date: Sunday, 2nd April

Time: 14.00 - 15.30 BST

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on
Eventbrite

Welcome to our MACFEST Iftar (breaking of the fast in Ramadan) from Tunisia and a celebration of Tunisian cultural heritage.

We are delighted to offer you a taste of Tunisian food and traditional garments from the seaside city of Sousse, live Oud performance, Roman and Islamic heritage and a brief view of Ramadan traditions between old and new.

Hosted by: Aicha Boubaker, Ahmed Alaya (Artist).

Chief Guest: Paul Griffiths, Deputy Lieutenant of Greater Manchester.



Eat like a Sultan! Cooking In The Muslim Medieval Ages

Date: Sunday, 9th April

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join us for an informative session with Professor Daniel L. Newman about medieval Arabic cooking.

The Arabic culinary tradition is one of the oldest and most prolific in the world, with an output totalling over four thousand recipes across ten known extant culinary manuals from al-Andalus in the West, to Cairo, Aleppo and Baghdad in the East, and spanning a period of five hundred years, between the 9th and the 13th centuries.

In addition to dishes, there are recipes for beverages, condiments, pickles, as well as hand-washing powders and perfumes. The talk will provide an overview of this tradition and discuss some of the salient features of this rich culinary legacy.

Presented by: Prof. Daniel L. Newman, Chair of Arabic, Director of Studies at Durham University

Hosted by: Karen Shannon, Chief Executive of Manchester Histories



MACFEST Iftar With Our Partners

Date: Saturday, 15th April

Time: 19.30 - 22.00

Venue: Khizra Mosque, 25 Cheetham Hill Road, Cheetham Hill, Manchester M8 0PF

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

MACFEST is delighted to host an Iftar event, with Khizra Mosque in Manchester.

The evening will celebrate our festival's extensive partnerships across Greater Manchester, inviting our valued partners and volunteers to join us for the breaking of the fast and to learn about the month of Ramadan.

Hosted by: Jawad, Sajjid Amin and Qaisra Shahraz MBE.

Chief Guest: The Very Rev. Rogers Govender MBE – The Dean of Manchester.





Flavors of Al-Andalus: A Culinary History in Poetry and Recipes - Hello from the USA!

Date: Sunday, 16th April

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register On Eventbrite

Join Shadab Zeest Hashmi and Yvonne Maffei from the USA in their celebration of the Culinary History of and remarkable heritage of Al-Andalus of Spain.

Shadab, a poet will read from her book, Baker of Tarifa, a series of poems which tell the story of Al-Andalus in the voices of figures—historical and fictional— living in different eras of a near-millennium of “La Convivencia” or “peaceful coexistence” in Spain under Muslim rule.

Yvonne Maffei, a food writer, will celebrate the gastronomic history of Al-Andalus under the Muslim rule, including the evolution of cuisine through the cultural and religious metamorphosis of the time, celebrating certain dishes, the ingredients and cooking techniques used in some of the most well-known recipes of the period as well as those that have survived into modern day Spain.

Hosted by: Jonathan Davidson, Poet, Director of Birmingham Literature Festival.



Eid Celebration with Women

Date: Saturday, 6th May

Time: 13.00 - 16.00

Venue: 519 Stockport Rd,
Longsight, Manchester M12
4NE

Tickets: £8 - Women Only

Join us for a special women only Eid event to celebrate Eid-ul Fitr. Opportunity for women to celebrate their culture and heritage.

We will offer you a feast: with fashion, poetry, food and entertainment and a female DJ!

Entertainment by: DJ Nawara, Researcher, Choreographer and founder of Funoon Dance Magreb.

Chief Guest: Cllr. Yasmine Darr, Deputy Lord Mayor of Manchester.

All women welcome.



Eid Celebration Multilingual Mushaira and Poetry

Date: Saturday, 20th May

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on
Eventbrite

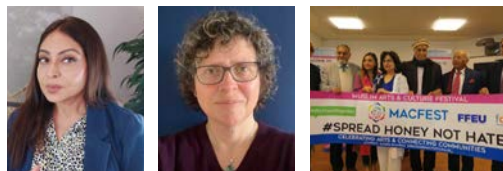
Join us for an entertaining multilingual poetry and Mushaira feast, as we celebrate the written and spoken word with Muslim women poets from around the UK. We present to you an enchanting poetry recital in different languages. They include Qadar Khan a Pushto Poet from Bradford.

In Arabic with: Maryam Alsaeid, Reem Ibrahim and Ghait Adnan from Germany.

We will also be joined by some poets from Circle of Literary Friends for a Mushaira in South Asian languages.

Hosted by: Rubina Khan, Poet and BBC Radio Presenter.

Chief Guest: Becky Swain, Director of Poetry Library, Manchester Metropolitan University.





Walk with MACFEST and Eid Picnic at Plattfield Park

Date: Sunday, 28th May

Time: 12.00 - 16.00

Venue: Fallowfield, Manchester
M14 6LA

Tickets: Free, Register on
Eventbrite

Join us for a special walking event held at the Plattfields Park in Fallowfield in Manchester.

Walk and Celebrate Eid with us. This event supports Manchester Walking Festival in May. After a walk around the park we will have our MACFEST picnic, and share food from around the world. Also a great opportunity to relax and make new friends.

All welcome and bring your food!

Hosted by: MACFEST team



The Blind Chef: A feast for the senses

Date: Wednesday, 28th June

Time: 18.00 - 19.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on
Eventbrite

Join Ibraheem in conversation as he shares his journey from going totally blind to becoming an independent chef.

He will be sharing some of his signature South Asian dishes by exploring his creative side to excite your senses!

Hosted by: Ibraheem Iqbal.





Musical Performance at the Lowry, Salford

Date: Saturday, 1st July

Time: 18.00 - 19.30

Venue: Pier 8, The Quays, Salford, M50 3AZ

Tickets: £12, Register on Eventbrite

Join us for a marvelous Eid musical evening at the Lowry theatre in Salford Quays.

Like our previous festivals we have a musical feast in store for you with two talented and highly entertaining group of singers and musicians from the North West.

They are: the Pakistani Urooj Qawal Group and the Moroccan GNAWA singers.

Introduced by: Matthew Eames, Head of Theatres (Contemporary and Commissioning)

Chief Guest: Tariq Wazir, General Consul, Manchester Pakistan Consulate.



Contradictions, Complexity and Chaos: In Conversation with Ziauddin Sardar

Date: Saturday, 29th July

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Author of over 50 books, including *Desperately Seeking Paradise*, Ziauddin Sardar will talk about futures, the importance of futures studies for Muslim people, and our post normal times where contradictions, complexity and chaos have become the new normal.

Director of Centre for Postnormal Policy and Futures Studies (CPPFS), and a retired Professor of Law and Society at Middlesex University, Ziauddin Sardar will answer the question, Can Muslim societies survive the changing nature of change?

Hosted by: Ismael Lea South, Director of The Salam Project, Cultural Youth and community consultant.



INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Conversion to Islam in Britain and the Political Future of Muslim Minorities

Date: Sunday, 26th February

Time: 12.00 - 13.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: £8, register on Eventbrite

Join Yahya Birt, a British-American well-known writer and academic. He will be in conversation with Dr. Shamim Miah as he reflects upon his conversion to Islam over thirty years ago. He will also discuss the history of the first convert community in Britain, and the political choices facing Muslim minorities in today's troubled world and his latest book.

Hosted by: Dr. Shamim Miah, University of Huddersfield.



Muslim Women in Australia - Hello from Perth!

Date: Sunday, 11th June

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Muslim women in Australia have been relatively ignored in scholarly literature until a few decades ago. This could partially be explained in terms of the immigration patterns that primarily brought women as family members and not as independent immigrants.

The tragic events of 9/11 and subsequent focus on Islam and Muslims has altered this situation. They have often been portrayed as victims. However, the last two decades show that Muslim women have been active in countering such misconceptions about Islam and Muslims through diverse strategies and actively promoting 'good citizenship' among their families.

Presented by: Samina Yasmeen AM, CitWA, FAIA, Professor and Director, Centre for Muslim States and Societies, University of Western Australia (UWA), Perth.

Hosted by: Professor Tahir Abbas, FAcSS, Leiden University, The Netherlands.





Travel Writing with Tharik Hussain: Journeying through Muslim Europe

Date: Saturday, 17th June

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

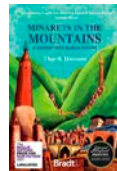
Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Join Award-winning author, travel writer, journalist and broadcaster, Tharik Hussain, a specialist in Muslim heritage and Muslim travel. He will be in conversation with Qaisra Shahraz MBE, charting his amazing journey as an author and a traveller through indigenous Muslim Europe.

In this fascinating talk Hussain will discuss the damaging impact of historic travel writing, the importance of decolonising travel writing, the othering of Muslim Europe and European Muslim heritage and the Ottoman legacy; a hundred years on.

Hosted by: Qaisra Shahraz MBE JP: Novelist, award-winning peace activist, founder and executive Director of MACFEST.

Chief Guest: Professor Jess Edwards, Head of the Department of English and Manchester Writing School, Manchester Metropolitan University.





Poetry and Ghazal: Formal ways, Out and In

Date: Thursday, 6th July

Time: 18.00 - 19.00

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

Join us for a special literary event with Michael Schmidt, Professor of poetry at University of Manchester, poet, translator and founder of Carcanet Press.

Some poets need form to be able to write – couplets, sonnets, blank verse, limerick, villanelle. If the forms their language provides begin to constrain them, where do they turn? Some Anglophone poets found their way to the haiku, the tanka; others to the ghazal, gratefully building its rich otherness into their practice and making something new with it in English.

This talk considers the work of a few of those poets who developed real creative traffic between very different traditions. They include the Australian Judith Wright and the Iranian-English Mimi Khalvati.

Hosted by: Dr Shahireh Sharif, writer.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

Book your place via www.macfest.org.uk and Eventbrite. Digital events take place over zoom and the links needed to join will be sent nearer to the time of the event. Stay up to date with our Eventbrite for any changes of dates and times.





Kindness and Integrity - Leadership in a Troubled World

Date: Sunday, 9th July

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, register on Eventbrite

In a special collaboration with the Manchester Lit & Phil, we are delighted to host an 'in-conversation' event with the eminent scholar, diplomat, author, poet, playwright, and polymath, Professor Akbar Ahmed, the current Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies at American University and a Wilson Centre Global Fellow in Washington, D.C. - led by the Manchester Lit & Phil's current President, Ian Cameron, the conversation with Professor Ahmed will be a celebration of a highly commendable multi-faceted life's work.

He will discuss the early life influences, people and events which have shaped his thinking and left a lasting impact. He will share his ideas for a new kind of leadership needed to breach the ever-widening chasm between the West and the Muslim World i.e., one based on Kindness and Integrity.

Hosted by: Ian Cameron, President of the Manchester Lit & Phil.

Special Guest: Dr Karin Vog, Professor, University of Education Heidelberg, Germany.

**Manchester
Lit & Phil**





Islam in China

Date: Saturday, 22nd July

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

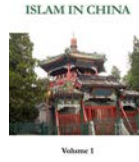
Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Islam remains the oldest religion foreign to China. China is in fact the only land where Islam is as old as in its place of birth, the Arab Peninsula.

Dr Salah Eddine Al-Djazairi, an expert in Muslim science and civilisation, will present how Islam came to China in the 7th Century CE, and how it fared until today, through the different dynasties, the Mongol presence and the various political changes of the more recent centuries.

Hosted by: Safiya Florence Ascoli-Ball, Director, Bayt Al-Hikma Productions.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

Book your place via www.macfest.org.uk and Eventbrite. Digital events take place over zoom and the links needed to join will be sent nearer to the time of the event. Stay up to date with our Eventbrite for any changes of dates and times.



The Library of Arabic Literature: Bringing Pre-Modern Arabic Texts into English Translation - Hello from Abu Dhabi!

Date: Sunday, 23rd July

Time: 14.00-15.30

Venue: Digital

Tickets: Free, Register on Eventbrite

Over the last decade, the Library has introduced English-language readers to vibrant new translations of significant works of Arabic literature. With an emphasis on the seventh to nineteenth centuries, the Library of Arabic Literature publishes texts from the pre-Islamic era to the cusp of the modern period across a wide range of genres, from poetry to religion, philosophy, law, science, travel writing, and history.

In this insightful panel, two of the Library's editorial board members will speak about their own work as editors and translators. Dr. Mohammed Rustom will speak about his recent edition and translation of *The Essence of Reality: A Defense of Philosophical Sufism*, a ground-breaking text on Islamic mysticism by the 6th/12th-century scholar 'Ayn al-Qudat.

Dr. Enass Khansa will discuss her current work producing a new Arabic edition of Ibn Hazm's classic text, *Tawq al-Hamamah*, as well as her edition and translation of an anonymous popular narrative, *Hadith Ziyad ibn 'Amir al-Kinani* from 7th/13th-century Andalusia.

Moderated by: Chip Rossetti, the Library of Arabic Literature's Editorial Director.





MACFEST HERITAGE TOURS

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SPAIN - 8 CENTURIES OF ISLAMIC HERITAGE

Dates: Saturday, 11th February - Thursday, 16th February 2023

Main Locations: Malaga, Cordoba, Seville, Granada

Would you like to experience one of Europe's greatest periods of cultural enlightenment? Then join us on a fascinating journey through 800 years of Islam in Andalusia. Our experienced local Muslim guides will provide unique insights into Spain's long-standing connections with Islam both past and present. This is a wonderful opportunity for a late winter break with the family.

* The package costs £599 per person. This covers 4 star accommodation for 5 nights with breakfast, private transport, professional tour guides and entrance fees to historical sites. Flights are not included.

For further information please contact:

E-mail: tours@macfest.org.uk



IRAN - REDISCOVERING THE JEWELS OF PERSIA

Dates: Saturday 13th May - Sunday 21st May 2023

Main Locations: Tehran, Kashan, Matinabad, Isfahan, Persepolis, Shiraz

Steeped in history, culture, technological advancement and beautiful landscapes, Iran's strategic location is one of the main reasons why empires and illustrious personalities have vied for supremacy in the region. Apart from stunning architecture, captivating history and mouthwatering cuisine, the warmth and hospitality of the Iranian peoples will leave a lasting impression on those who are fortunate to be able to visit this ancient land. Join us on an incredible adventure to rediscover the Jewels of Persia!

* The package costs £799 per person. This covers 4 star accommodation for 8 nights with breakfast, private air conditioned transport, professional tour guide and entrance fees to historical sites. Flights are not included.

For further information please contact:

E-mail: tours@macfest.org.uk



JORDAN - IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE PROPHETS

Dates: Monday, 23rd October - Saturday, 28th October 2023

Main Locations: Amman, Dead Sea, Petra, Wadi Rum, Jerash

Blessed with stunning desert landscapes, rich Islamic heritage and well-preserved archaeological sites, this journey of discovery through Jordan traces the footsteps of people and places mentioned in the Qur'an and other holy scriptures. Starting in the vibrant capital Amman we visit the Cave of the Seven Sleepers and the Dead Sea. We then spend time in Dana Nature Reserve before heading south to the ancient city of Petra. After a night in a bedouin desert camp in Wadi Rum the trip is capped off with a visit to the Roman ruins of Jerash. Join us as we tread along the paths of the Prophets.

* The package costs £699 per person. This covers 4 star accommodation for 5 nights with breakfast, air conditioned transport, tour guide and entrance fees to historical sites. Flights are not included.

For further information please contact:

E-mail: tours@macfest.org.uk



UK HERITAGE TOUR - VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE MOSQUE

Date: Sunday, 13th August

Time: 10.00 am - 21.00 pm

Address: 309-313 Mill Road, Cambridge, CB1 3DF

Cost: £25

Join us for our first MACFEST guided tour in the UK to Cambridge Central Mosque, the iconic new mosque, with its amazing architecture. We will travel from Manchester in the morning in a mini bus or coach, spend an afternoon in the mosque and return in the evening.

Through our tour you will learn about its history, explore the evolution of this eco-friendly project and of course marvel at its award-winning architecture and craftsmanship.

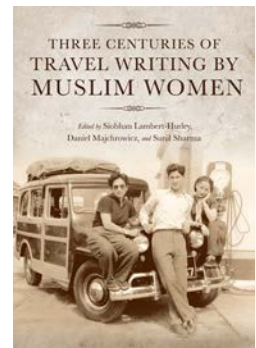
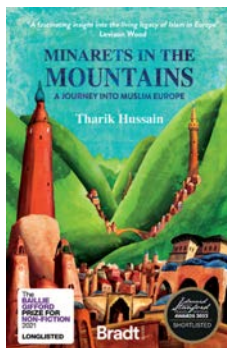
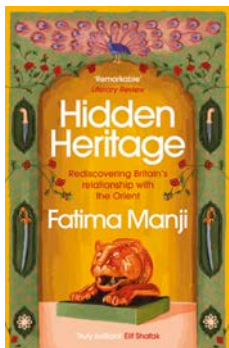
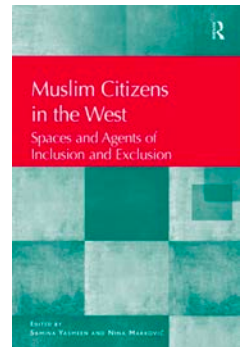
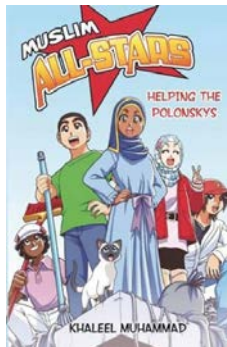
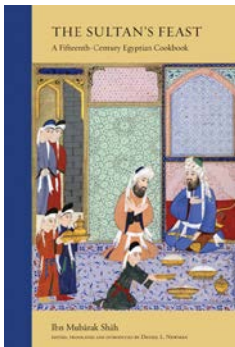
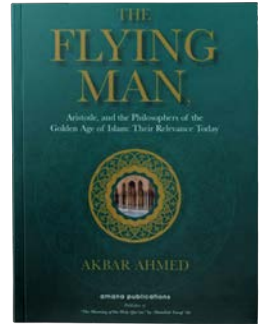
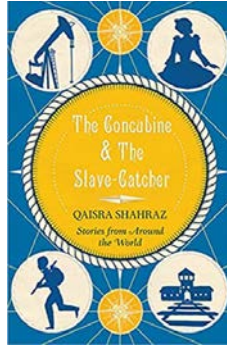
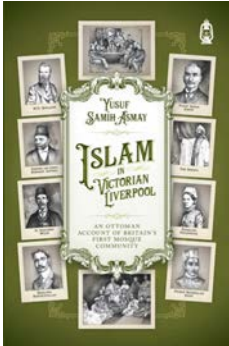
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MACFEST LIBRARY

Here is a collection of books written by some of MACFEST'S amazing panelists and participants, these books are discussed within their panels.



Books Titles from left to right: *Islam in Victorian Liverpool* - Written by: Yusuf Samih Asmay. *The Concubine and The Slave Catcher* - Written by Qaisra Shahraz. *The Flying Man* - Written by: Akbar Ahmed. *The Sultan's Feast: A Fifteenth-Century Egyptian Cookbook* - Written by: Ibn Mubarak Shah, Translated and Introduced by: Daniel L. Newman. *The Muslim All-stars: Helping the Polonskys* - Written by: Khaleel Muhammad. *Muslim Citizens in the West: Spaces and Agents of Inclusion and Exclusion* - Edited by: Samina Yasmeen and Nina Markovic. *Hidden Heritage : Rediscovering Britain's relationship with the Orient* - Written by Fatima Manji. *Minarets in the Mountains: A journey into Muslim Europe* - Written by: Tharik Hussain. *Three Centuries of Travel Writing by Muslim Women* - Edited by Siobhan Lambert-Hurley, Daniel Majchrowicz and Sunil Sharma

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to all our funders, sponsors, supporters and the dedication of the MACFEST operational team and volunteers for making this festival possible.

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- Central Library, Manchester



EDUCATION, PARTNERS AND VENUES

We are proud to have these Manchester schools and colleges celebrating MACFEST days. We would like to thank our partners and venues.

SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

- Levenshulme High School for Girls
- Whalley Range High School
- The Manchester College
- Manchester Grammar School
- Manchester Health Academy
- Bosnian School and Society of Manchester
- The University Of Manchester, Creative Writing Department
- Burnage Academy for Boys
- Hopwood Hall College, Rochdale
- Manchester Arabic School, Chorlton
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Newman Roman Catholic School
- Canon Slade Sixth Form College, Bolton
- The University of Salford
- Stockport College
- Trafford College
- Altrincham Grammar School for Girls
- Manchester Islamic Girls Grammar School
- Withington Girls' School
- Loretto College
- Marple Sixth Form College
- The Cheadle College
- Freehold Community Primary School
- The Albion Academy
- Manchester Academy
- City of Liverpool College
- Dean Trust Ardwick, Manchester

PARTNERS AND VENUES

- Manchester Central Library
- Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI)
- Manchester Museum
- Longsight Library and Learning Centre
- Stretford Public Hall
- Oldham Library and Lifelong Learning Centre
- Khizra Mosque, Manchester
- The Portico Library
- The John Rylands Library
- British Muslim Heritage Centre
- Elizabeth Gaskell's House
- Whitworth Art Gallery
- Gallery Oldham
- The Lowry, Salford
- The Met, Bury
- Bolton Central Library



FESTIVAL DIARY

Stay up to date with our Eventbrite page for any changes of dates and times.

FEBRUARY 2023

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11th	Spain Heritage Tour - 8 Centuries of Islamic Heritage		56
17th	Celebrating Mother Tongue Language: Hopwood Hall - Hello from Rochdale!	13.00 - 15.00	14
18th	Opening Ceremony	12.00 - 13.00	6
18th	Ottoman Encounters, Henrietta Liston's Travels and Turkish Responses - Hello from Scotland!	15.00 - 16.30	7
19th	Islamophobia: Muslims in Europe and the USA	15.00 - 16.30	8
19th	Comedy and Laughter with Prince Abdi	18.00 - 19.00	8
21st	Celebrating Muslim Art Culture: Withington Girls' School	All Day	14
23rd	Celebrating Cultural Heritage	18.00 - 19.30	15
26th	Conversion to Islam in Britain and the Political Future of Muslim Minorities	12.00 - 13.30	50
27th	Celebrating Muslim Art and Culture at AGGS	All Day	15

MARCH 2023

4th	Celebrating Five Years of MACFEST	12.00 - 13.30	25
4th	Henna Painting for Adults	All Day	26
4th	Hijab Styling	All Day	26
4th	Hair and Makeup	All Day	26
4th	Card Making Workshop with Farhat Javid	All Day	26
4th	Face Painting	All Day	27
4th	Ebru Marble Painting	All Day	27
4th	Calligraphy Workshop	All Day	27
4th	Mandala Making with Zareena Bano	13.30 - 15.00	37
4th	Art Exhibition by Atefeh Seifi	All Day	28
4th	Art Exhibition by Natalia Stefurak	All Day	28
4th	Art Exhibition by Ashfia Ashrif	All Day	28
4th	Art Exhibition by Rahela Khan	All Day	28
4th	Yaran North West Manchester	All Day	29
4th	Art Exhibition by Sheba Arts	All Day	29
4th	Art Exhibition by Asuman Dokuzlu	All Day	29
6th	In Conversation with: Myriam Francois	18.00 - 19.00	30

Date	Event	Time	Page
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8th	Women's Movements, Tradition and Islamic Narratives in the Arabian Gulf	13.00 - 14.30	32
8th	Three Centuries of Travel: Writing by Muslim Women	18.00 - 19.30	33
10th	Photography: Issues of Culture and Identity with Maha Alasaker	18.00 - 19.00	30
11th	In Conversation with Fatima Manji	14.00 - 15.30	34
12th	Afghani Women Artists	14.00 - 15.30	35
14th	Celebrating the Performing Arts: Levenshulme High School	11.30 - 13.00	16
14th	In Conversation with Artist: Farwa Moledina	18.00 - 19.30	38
15th	Celebrating Muslim Heritage: Cheadle, Stockport and Trafford Colleges	All Day	21
17th	Celebrating Poetry and International Mother Tongue Language Day	18.00 - 19.30	16
18th	Women and Weddings	14.00 - 15.30	36
19th	International Youth Speak Out on Environment	14.00 - 15.30	17
21st	Teachers Speak Out! Celebrating Arts, Cultures and Heritage in Schools	18.00 - 19.00	18
22nd	German students enjoy the multi-cultural city of Manchester - Hello from Germany!	19.30 - 22.00	44
25th	Children's Book with Khalil Mohammed	14.00 - 15.00	19
26th	Turkish Calligraphy Workshop	14.00 - 15.30	38
27th	Whalley Range 11-18 High School: Celebrating art and diversity	10.00 - 14.00	19

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2nd	Celebrating Ramadan and Tunisian Cultural Heritage - Hello from Tunisia!	14.00 - 15.30	44
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15th	MACFEST Iftar with our Partners	19.30 - 22.00	45
16th	Flavors of Al-Andalus: A Culinary History in Poetry and Recipes - Hello from the USA!	14.00 - 15.30	46
19th	Freehold Festival: Celebrating our Cultural Heritage	All Day	20
27th	City of Liverpool College - Hello from Liverpool!	12.00 - 15.00	20
30th	In Conversation with Artist Farwa Moledina	14.00 - 15.30	38

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3rd	Turkish Floral Art Workshop	13.00 - 15.30	39
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Date	Event	Time	Page
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27th	Bury MACFEST	14.00 - 17.00	42
28th	Walk with MACFEST and Celebrate Eid at Plattfiled Park	12.00 - 16.00	48
30th	Creative Art Doodling Workshop	18.00 - 19.30	37

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10th	Islamic Collection at Manchester Museum, UK	14.00 - 15.00	9
11th	Muslim Women in Australia - Hello from Perth	14.00 - 15.30	50
15th	Celebrating Diversity and Culture: Newman RC College	All Day	22
17th	Travel Writing with Tharik Hussain: Journey through Muslim Europe	14.00 - 15.30	51
21st	Films, Films: In Conversation with Actor Aqib Khan	18.00 - 19.30	10
22nd	Stories and Storytelling in Islamic Manuscripts - John Rylands Library, Manchester, UK	17.30 - 18.30	9
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1st	Musical Performance at the Lowry, Salford	18.00 - 19.30	49
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9th	Kindness and Integrity - Leadership in a Troubled World	14.00 - 15.30	52
16th	Celebrating Islamic Artefacts and Manuscripts in Mohammed Bin Rashid Library, United Arab Emirates	14.00 - 15.30	11
17th	Poetry and Ghazal: Formal Ways, Out and In	18.00 - 19.00	51
18th	A Humanistic Exchange: Early Modern Islamic Manuscripts and Maps in Chicago - Hello from Chicago, USA!	14.00 - 15.30	12
22nd	Islam in China	14.00 - 15.30	53
23rd	The Library of Arabic Literature: Bringing Pre-Modern Arabic Texts into English Translation - Hello from Abu Dhabi!	14.00 - 15.30	54
29th	Contradictions, Complexity and Chaos: In conversation with Ziauddin Sardar	14.00 - 15.30	49
30th	Islam, Culture and Environment: Are Muslims Environmentalists?	14.00 - 15.00	13

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OCTOBER 2023

23rd	Jordan Hertiage Tour: In the Footsteps of the Prophets		57
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MACFEST

MUSLIM ARTS AND CULTURE FESTIVAL

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Ashfia Ashrif

Brochure designed by:
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