VOICEs of RefugEES: STORIES OF TURBULENCE AND TRIUMPH

Denver, CO -- Born in a Nepali refugee camp, Sabitra Niroula spent more than a decade there before her family was resettled in Colorado. She is now a work-study pre-med student at the University of Colorado-Denver, helping other students understand how they can pay for college.

It’s just one of several stories heard on stage later this month, highlighting the turbulence, triumph and hope that marks a refugee’s journey to Colorado.

On Tuesday, April 18, ECDC African Community Center (ACC) and No Lost Generation-University of Denver are hosting Voices of Refugees from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Reiman Theatre at University of Denver, 2199 S. University Blvd, Denver, CO 80208. Co-sponsored by the Humanitarian Assistance Program and the Center for Middle East Studies at DU, the event is free and open to the public.

“This event provides our local community with the opportunity to hear a first-hand account of what it’s like to come to the United States as a refugee,” says Melissa Theesen, ACC’s Managing Director. “Learning about someone’s unique journey to a safe haven and how they have thrived since arriving here helps us truly understand the importance and success of refugee resettlement in the United States.”

No Lost Generation-DU is an organization at the University of Denver that is part of the national student initiative and the broader international effort to engage students and communities in worldwide refugee issues. NLG-DU seeks to raise awareness of refugee crises and promote access to education for refugees through advocacy, volunteering, fundraising, campaigns, and events.

The Center for Middle East Studies, housed in the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, is dedicated to promoting and strengthening the study and understanding of the Middle East and broader Islamic world, both at DU and throughout the Mountain West. CMES aims to provide critical scholarship of the region through institutional partnerships, public programming and events, student engagement, and publications.

ECDC African Community Center (ACC), a branch office of the Ethiopian Community Development Council, which is authorized by the Department of State to resettle refugees in the U.S., has been welcoming refugees into the Denver metro area for 15 years. ACC helps refugees and immigrants build safe, sustainable lives. For more information about ACC, visit www.acc-den.org. ACC is a 501c(3) entity.

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