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Please note, a previous version of this email linked to a different video - the correct link is now below.



**MKIAC CHAMPIONS THE ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND'S
CREATIVE CASE FOR DIVERSITY**

We offer huge congratulations to the first Bangladeshi Mayor of Milton Keynes, Cllr Mohammad Khan. We are incredibly proud to have been chosen by the whole council as one of the Mayor's charities this year. We are honoured to represent and serve MK's diverse communities, and we look forward to working with him closely this year!

In May, during Mental Health Awareness Week, we hosted a 'Poetry on Prescription' event which focused on 'Nature as Solace', a theme close to our hearts after the year we have had and one which the poets responded to, with sensitivity and diversity.

The Art and Culture of Yemen; Honey and Frankincense was a wonderful event which brought together artists, architects, poets, heritage restoration professionals, authors and journalists to understand the plight of Yemen and how, through the arts, we might be able to raise awareness and also build livelihoods in the region.

June holds lots of excitement for us here at MKIAC, we will be holding our a live open-mic night for the first time in a long time. Plus, we are finally launching our 'Chronicles of Isolation', a community tapestry project which will document women's experiences of the pandemic. See below for more details and e-mail us at mkiac@mkcollege.ac.uk for more information and to sign up!

Thank you,

Anouar Kassim MBE
Founder-Director

CHRONICLES OF ISOLATION



**Starts 24th
June!**

**Limited
spaces! Email
to sign up
now!**

**BE A PART OF WEAVING A COMMUNITY TAPESTRY
WHICH WILL DOCUMENT YOUR EXPERIENCE OF
THE PANDEMIC.**

**FREE 5 WEEK PROGRAMME IN MILTON KEYNES FOR WOMEN. EMAIL:
MKIAC@MKCOLLEGE.AC.UK FOR MORE INFORMATION OR VISIT:
FACEBOOK.COM/MKISLAMICARTSANDCULTURE**



We have some exciting news! We are launching a project that has been in the works for a very long time - a community tapestry project which documents the stories from women of different communities living in MK and their experiences of living through a pandemic. The participants will learn about Islamic patterns and methods of loom weaving, with artist, Rezia Wahid, based on their stories of isolation.

The participants will be exposed to the history and the practical skills to produce 10 individual tapestries. They will be exhibited at MK College, Chaffron Way and then, in May 2022 at Art in the Park Festival.

It's a 5 week programme, every Thursday beginning 24th June at Milton Keynes College, Bletchley Campus. If you love working with textiles, this is for you! Would you like to be involved? There are limited places available so do e-mail mkiac@mkcollege.ac.uk for more information and to sign up!

Restaurant present:

Spoken Word Night

Theme is
Roots!

Live at Melis
Restaurant!

Tuesday 22nd June
6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Apply for a performance slot:
mkiac@mkcollege.ac.uk

MELIS
TURKISH MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE



What: A community open-mic night!

When: 22nd June at 6.30 pm

Where: Melis Restaurant, Milton Keynes

On June 22nd at Melis Restaurant in Milton Keynes, we will resume our open-mic nights! The event will be strictly socially distanced, but all are welcome to perform at this safe and inclusive space, uniting people through the power of poetry.

This month, we invite poets to respond to the idea of, 'roots.' Please do email us to apply for a slot at mkiac@mkcollege.ac.uk and you can find more information on the Facebook event: <https://bit.ly/3fPXctS>



We are very proud to have been chosen as one of the Mayor's charities for his one year term, alongside such an established and important charity, such as the British Heart Foundation. Watch the video above to see the Mayor's pledges as well as our section about the work we have been doing in Milton Keynes since 2002.



In this special event, in partnership with Liverpool Arab Arts Festival, we understood the conflict in Yemen from the perspective of arts and culture, as well as hearing poems and verses from the British-Yemeni community. We had some amazing speakers from Beirut, London, Liverpool, Bradford and MK, spanning authors, poets, architects and heritage professionals. Missed it? You can watch it on YouTube above.



Keep your eyes peeled on any programme updates by checking us out on our website and social media platforms

We love hearing from you, and we are constantly striving to provide high-quality experiences.

Stay safe from the MKIAC team.

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We have sent you this newsletter as you have attended or supported Art in the Park - the biggest multicultural arts festival held in Milton Keynes!

Our mailing address is:

Chaffron Way, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes, MK5 6LP

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