

free art workshops with female artists from Islamic backgrounds



Access Arts and the Islamic Women's Association of Qld will hold a variety of free art workshops for the community starting in June. Muslim and non Muslim women and young mothers with children are encouraged to sign up to what promises to be an inspirational series of activities to help explore our diverse cultures and the intersections between art and life. The workshops will be held at a number of venues – at BEMAC in Kangaroo Point and in the Southside suburb of Kuraby.

The artists involved in this project can attest to the power of expressive creativity each having been through the process of migration and resettlement. Salam El-Merbi, Sudabeh Ramhormoz, Sevkija Hodzic, Sumaiya Latif, Aida Khalaf and Shamime Mustapha each bring a wealth of knowledge and experience working with a variety of community groups and with people from all walks of life. Their shared philosophy that one can grow through creative expression is a testament to their enthusiasm for this project.

Participants will actively engage with different art techniques and get to meet others from a diverse range backgrounds. The resulting works made during the sessions such as performances, paintings, works on paper and Access Arts will then collate artworks into an exhibition to tour nationally throughout 2009 – 2010.

A documentary of the entire process will be created by Brisbane video artist Teone Reinthal in conjunction with the exhibition and will also be made available as an educational resource highlighting diversity and creativity to libraries, primary and secondary schools throughout Australia.

For workshop outlines including dates, venue details and facilitators details please contact:

Mandana Mapar, Salaam Project Manager on 0413 144 533 or

Fausia Nathie, Salaam IWAQ Coordinator 07 32736871

Or send your contact details to register by emailing: salaamproject@gmail.com



The project has been made possible by Arts Queensland through a Creative Communities Sector Development and Presentation grant which will fund the employment of 8 artswomen and support volunteer staff to carry out the project work, and the Touring Exhibition Partnership Plan of Museum and Gallery Services Queensland, with assistance from the Australia Council, the Federal Government's arts funding and advisory body.