

Call for contributions to a book of written and visual creative work by young people from refugee backgrounds

We welcome contributions of creative writing and/or visual art for a book by refugee background young people aimed at other young people in NZ.

The idea for this book originated from discussions between refugee background youth from Dunedin and Invercargill and project staff involved in the Secondary to Tertiary Transitions project (see <https://www.otago.ac.nz/transitions-project/index.html>.) The editorial team (including young people from a refugee background and former Transitions Project staff) are Vivienne Anderson, Anna Burgin, Alejandra Ortiz Ayala, Natasha Smilie, Nikole Dayana Torres Ararat and Nagham Ghazzoul.

We aim for this book to be an engaging text for young people and an educational resource for students and teachers that privileges the voices of young people from refugee backgrounds on their own terms. The book will be a collection of visual and written creative works with reflective questions and supplementary chapters added by the editorial team.

The theme of submissions should be based on the following question:

- What would you like young people in NZ to know (about you)?

This could include **but is not limited to**: life and experience of NZ, family and culture/background, hobbies and interests, life before settlement, your identity, what home means for you, future aspirations, and fictional work.

What we are looking for in a submission:

- Created by a refugee background young person in NZ (ages 13 – 25).
- Written work (e.g. short story, essay, poetry) **or**, visual pieces (e.g. art, photography), **or a** combination of both.
- Written work should be typed and can be in any language. Multilingual work is welcome.
- Submissions should be no longer than four pages.
- Contributions should be created for young people.
- The deadline for submissions is 5 pm on the 9th August 2024

We welcome all submissions; however, all work will be subject to review by the editorial team and editors at Otago University Press, and may not be part of the published book. If you have any questions, please email anna.burgin@otago.ac.nz.

Please submit work to anna.burgin@otago.ac.nz by 5 pm on the 9th of August 2024.