Supporting refugees to heal from trauma and build a new life in Australia





To develop and implement ways to facilitate the healing process of survivors of torture and refugee trauma and to assist and resource individuals and organisations who work with them to provide appropriate, effective and culturally sensitive services.

- STARTTS Mission

Welcome to the virtual 12th Refugee Ball From the STARTTS CEO



It is an enormous pleasure to have you with us today at our Digital Ball! STARTTS Refugee Ball has proud 12 year history that has established it

as one of the most culturally diverse gala events in our wonderful City of Sydney. For a while we thought that the COVID-19 pandemic would prevent us from having it this year, and then we thought of the concept of a digital ball... We take pride to ensure that each of these Refugee Ball events are unique in their own way, and certainly tonight we will be taking this to the extreme with this digital event!

These nights provide STARTTS with an opportunity to catch up with our friends and supporters while sharing a wonderful meal among interesting speeches, music and dance. We might not be able to partake of the food and the dancing tonight, but we will certainly be able to do the rest thanks to the great program our team has put together. Equally importantly, tonight will also enable us to raise funds for valuable projects that assist torture and trauma survivors in NSW, and provide support to agencies like STARTTS in less favourable places around the world.

Thank you so much for joining us tonight! I look forward to seeing you in the real world at our 2021 Refugee Ball!

Jorge Aroche CEO, STARTTS



Online Program

7:30pm	STARTTS Video presentation by Laundry Lane Productions
7:37	MC Introduction: Chris North
7:40	Welcome to Country: Aunty Ann Weldon
7:45	Opening Performance: Shellie Morris – li-Anthawirriyarra
7:50	STARTTS CEO Message: Jorge Aroche
7:55	Naz Sharifi in conversation with Chris North
8:00	Keynote Address: Mr Chin Tan, Race Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission
8:10	Performance: Lior - Heal Me
8:15	MC presents: Video Messages The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG, Australian of the Year, NSW Local Hero Lisa Henry, Secretary General, International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)
8:20	Video presentation: South Sudanese Youth Program
8:25	Ayen Anyieth in conversation with Chris North
8:35	International performance: Aloe Blacc – Hold on Tight
8:40	Acknowledgements
8:42	Video presentation: 2019 Refugee Ball highlights by Laundry Lane Productions
8:45	Fundraising
9:00pm	Close



Keynote Speaker Mr Chin Tan

Mr Chin Tan commenced his term as **Race Discrimination Commissioner** on October 8, 2018. Prior to joining the Commission, Chin spent three years as the Director for Multicultural Engagement at the Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne. Chin's focus at Swinburne University as the head of its cultural diversity strategy was to work collaboratively across the University and the wider community to ensure that Swinburne succeeded as an institution of cultural diversity excellence. His leadership role resulted in Swinburne on 23 November 2017 being conferred a High Commendation award by the Victorian Government under the Victorian Multicultural Excellence Awards 2017 – Business category.

Chin was the Chairperson and Statutory Head of the Victorian Multicultural Commission from 2011 to 2015. The Commission is an independent statutory authority with responsibilities to support and promote the benefits of Victoria's cultural diversity.

Previously, he enjoyed a successful career of more than twenty-four years as a practising lawyer that included partner roles at a number of Melbourne firms. He was until recently a member of La Trobe University's Asia Advisory Board and has had either led or been a member of many other community organisations.

Racism thrives in societies that fail to stand up to it. That's why it is the responsibility of all Australians to say 'No' wherever racism or xenophobia appears.

— Chin Tan

Guest Speaker Naz Sharifi

Naz Sharifi is a young Hazara woman currently studying a Bachelor of International Relations and Law. She is deeply passionate about advocacy for children and refugees, especially migrant and refugee children impacted by the lack of stability and long-term displacement. Naz volunteers at Kateb Hazara Association, giving talks of political advocacy and participation, youth involvement importance of positive representation. Having recently joining the Youth Ambassadors Program at MYAN NSW where she initiated a youth-led space for young

people to grieve, express their frustrations and find solidarity after the attacks in Kabul, Afghanistan. Her approach to influencing her community is youth-led having encouraged youth involvement in fundraising efforts in the bushfire crisis. Observing intergenerational differences within her community, Naz works hard to be an active listener and youth advocate amongst her elders. With her strong critical thinking skills, Naz advocates for accurate representation of refugee communities. Naz was awarded the 2020 NSW Humanitarian Award for Youth category.

My journey towards the truth is not mine alone. It has been shaped and inspired by the people and communities striving tirelessly for a better, more just society.

— Naz Sharifi



Guest Speaker Ayen Anyieth

Nurse graduate and STARTTS South Sudanese Youth Health Promotion officer. She participated in the 2020 South Sudanese leadership program as a participant prior to commencing employment with STARTTS. Ayen Has worked with South Sudanese youth since 2014 through church initiated groups, the NSW Jieeng Christian Society and the Jol WO Lieec youth ministry. Through the South Sudanese Youth Ambassador Project we will be equipping young South Sudanese people with leadership skills and mental health awareness strategies. This will enable them to branch out into the community and build peer support networks with other young people as well as utilise self-help strategies for themselves. It is our hope that completing this program will provide a sense of empowerment for young South Sudanese people, this objective was achieved amongst the 2020 participants so we aim to recruit more young people in the 2020-2021 period.





NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors

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Proceeds from the Virtual Ball

The **Youth Ambassador Group** was formed in December 2019 as a result of a collaborative project between the STARTTS Community Development team, the Communities

COMMUNITIES

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in Cultural Transition Team, and the South West Sydney Local Health District. The group consists of more than 20 young South Sudanese between the ages of 15 and 25 years, most of whom were born in Australia. This group has received leadership and mental health training to become ambassadors of their community and improve the mental health and wellbeing of their peers and community.

Performing Artists

Global Ambassador



Shellie Morris

Proud Yanyuwa and Wardaman woman Shellie Morris is a multi-award-winning singer/songwriter creating and singing in around 17 Australian Aboriginal languages. While she has been in the spotlight over the years for involvement with Black Arm Band, ARIA nominations, Music Australia award and G.R. Burarrawanga Memorial Award; by and large, she works on the ground empowering and gently effecting change. She is the 2014 NT Australian of the Year, the 2014 NAIDOC National Artist of the Year, a multi Deadly Award winner and a driving force of the acclaimed album Ngambala Wiji li-Wunungu and the internationally award-winning musical documentary Prison Songs. Shellie uses music as a healing and sharing experience, and her most recent album, Together We Are Strong,' is the first by an Indigenous contemporary female to be sung entirely in the Indigenous languages of the Gulf Country. Shellie was the 2014 NT Australian of the Year and NAIDOC Artist of the Year.

First Nations cultures have always used the arts as the main way of communicating over the ages, as an education tool for kids' learning, lore, law, inter-tribal communication and imparting social mores. I'm continuing this in a contemporary way.

— Shellie Morris



Aloe Blacc

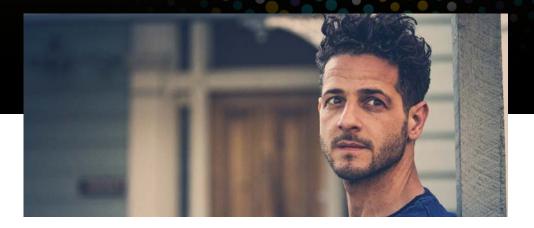
With "Wake Me Up"—the mega-hit Aloe Blacc sang and co-wrote for Swedish DJ Avicii and saw climb to #1 in over 100 countries across the globe— the Grammy nominated singer/songwriter proved he has an irresistible power to capture the complexities of human emotion. Blacc's third solo album Lift Your Spirit (XIX Recordings/Interscope Records), pushed further into a folk/soul/pop fusion that's both undeniably joyful and eye-opening in message. Adding an of-the-moment twist to the music of legends like Sly Stone and Stevie Wonder, Lift Your Spirit was built on songs that pair Blacc's poetic yet incisive lyrics with huge hooks and relentless feelgood grooves. With "Wake Me Up" having sold more than close to 5 million copies in the U.S. and streamed half a billion plays, Blacc notes that one of his main ambitions is to use his popularity to affect social change while continuing to infuse his music with a mindful positivity.

I think that rather than wallowing in the status quo, we need to be visionaries that are pushing forward with a beautiful new imagination of what reality could be. And every decision that you make and every piece of art that you create and every business venture you engage and every relationship that you entertain – lead with your heart.

— Aloe Blacc

Performing Artists

Auction Prizes



Lior

Lior burst onto the Australian music scene in 2005 with his debut album -'Autumn Flow' which achieved Platinum status and went on to become one of the most successful independent debuts in Australian music history. A swag of accolades followed, Following the success of 'Autumn Flow' and led by the demand for his live performances, Lior released several albums, most recently 'Between You and Me' (2018). Lior has toured extensively both in Australia and internationally and has been a regular performer at WOMAD and art festivals around the world. In 2013, Lior collaborated with renowned

composer Nigel Westlake in writing a song cycle for voice and orchestra titled 'Compassion' consisting of original melodies and orchestration set to ancient Hebrew and Arabic texts centred on the idea of compassion. Commissioned by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Lior and Nigel went on to win the ARIA for 'Best Classical Album' in 2014. In 2016, Lior wrote his first theatre score for the play – 'The Wider Earth' and in 2019, he was awarded the Sidney Myer Creative Fellowship for 'outstanding talent and exceptional courage', one of only nine artists nationally across all art-forms to receive the award. He is currently writing a new album.



High Tea with Rosemary Kariuki -Advocate for migrant and refugee women & Australian of the Year



Engagement with renowned Illusionist & Magician for the Stars lackson Aces



Books by Thomas Mayor



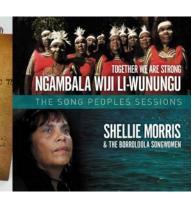
Aloe Blacc Signed CDs



Champion & Refugee Advocate

Dorothy Hoddinott AO

Lior Signed CDs



Shellie Morris Signed CDs



Happiness Program for a Refugee -Sponsored Wellness Course



"Together Soon Enough" Peter Drew Limited edition signed poster print

About STARTTS

The NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors, or STARTTS, helps refugees who were forced to leave their country due to persecution in the context of political conflict, organised violence and human rights violations. We help them build a new life in Australia by providing culturally appropriate and cutting edge treatment to heal their psychological, emotional and social scars.

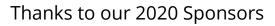
STARTTS offers a range of specialised interventions, including counselling, group therapy, programs for children and young people, physiotherapy body focussed therapies and community projects. Over the past 30 years we have provided clinical and community development services to over 70,000 individuals.

Proceeds from the Ball

The International Rehabilitation Council for Victims of Torture (IRCT) is a global network of torture and trauma rehabilitation centres – more than 160 centres in over 70 countries that has been fighting for a world without torture for over 30 years.

Half of funds raised at this year's Refugee Ball will be destined to fund a global initiative designed to support the work of torture and trauma services around the world. In the context of diminishing support from a global north increasingly more concerned with domestic affairs, funds to support the rehabilitation of torture survivors in developing countries have become critically scarce.

Since governments in post-conflict and neighbouring countries are for the most part unwilling or unable to fund torture rehabilitation services. We are issuing a call to civic society around the world to support the work that governments will not fund.





Presented in partnership with





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IS A CAMPAIGN WHICH INVITES ALL AUSTRALIANS TO REFLECT ON WHAT THEY CAN DO TO COUNTER RACISM WHEREVER IT HAPPENS.

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