

connected
communities

stories
and
cultural
practices
in
Darlington

15 to 21
June 2026

As part of *REFUGEE WEEK in Darlington* we invite you to a week of exhibitions, events, and film screenings celebrating the stories, creativity, and cultures that shape Darlington today. Bringing together work created by local residents—including migrants and long-term communities—the programme explores themes of home, belonging, and shared experience through art, storytelling, and film.

Everyone is welcome.
Come along, explore, and connect.

Connected Communities is led by the Institute for Collective Place Leadership at Teesside University, curated by Azadeh Fatehrad in collaboration with Creative Darlington, Centre for Local Studies, Hopetown Darlington, The Forum, and Darlington Assistance for Refugees, and is supported by the AHRC Impact Acceleration Account and Creative Darlington. In partnership with the Stockton and Darlington Railway 26 miles Heritage Project and funded by the National Heritage Lottery Fund.

Exhibition

At Friends Community Hub
6 Skinnergate Darlington, DL3 7NB
15 - 21 June, 11am - 5pm
except 16th and 18th June, 11am - 19pm

Private View: Tuesday 16 June, 4pm - 6pm
The exhibition showcases a year of collaborative artworks produced with our talented participants and generous facilitators.

Collective Printmaking

Hopetown Darlington, McNay St
Darlington DL3 6SW
Saturday 20 June, 10am - 4pm

A large-scale drop-in workshop open to all where participants use screen printing and stencil techniques to collaboratively create a shared artwork exploring the theme of courage.

Film Screenings

The Forum, Borough Rd, Darlington DL1 1SG

Wednesday 17 June 2026, 7pm - 9pm

Screening

Flee

2021

Directed by Jonas Poher Rasmussen

Final Cut for Real

Tuesday 23 June 2026, 7pm - 9pm

Screening

Green Border

2023

Directed by Agnieszka Holland

Metro Films

Wednesday 24 June, 7pm - 9pm

Screening and panel discussion

Home Away From Home

2025

Directed by Azadeh Fatehrad

Baltic Art Centre, Visby

Presented by
Institute for Collective Place Leadership at Teesside University

In collaboration with
Creative Darlington
Centre for Local Studies
Hopetown Darlington
The Forum
Darlington Assistance for Refugees

Special thanks to
Kirsten Yates
Alison Grange
Sarah Gouldsbrough
Cait Barratt
Vicky Holbrough
Katherine Williamson
Stephen Wiper
Darlington Borough Council
Darlington Culture Volunteers
Navigator North

Project lead
Azadeh Fatehrad

Project team
Sally Blackburn-Daniels
Elena Calin
Robyn Ollett
Fran Wood
Claire Finlay
Judy Caplin
Anvar Sharifi
Zabi Muradi
Lucy Roscoe
Dawn Belshaw
Miki Rogers
Wade Radford
Ellen Mather
Claire Priestley

This exhibition and public programme are funded by
Creative Darlington
Teesside University AHRC Impact
Acceleration Account
Institute for Collective Place Leadership
Stockton and Darlington Railway 26 miles Heritage Project
and funded by the National Heritage Lottery Fund

Contact
A.Fatehrad@tees.ac.uk

Ali	Ashraf	Rafi
Adam	Iman	Shukri
Razullah	Abeer	Soheil
Chowdhury	Amina	Sohiela
Arez	Gharib	Sultane
Salah	America	Zakia
Nour	Mahedi	Suzana
Nargiza	Abdulham	Kreshnak
Abar	Hani	Ukuvazwekuta
Mahabed	Samir	Zerin
Mohammad	O'Reilly	Daban
Samayeh	Ahmad	Nariman
Sonya	Ismail	Dipak
Mohsen	Malik	Kene
Hiba	Ahin	Mario
Nabil	Anhar	Jamie
Solomon	Nilufa	Abbas
Lalagha	Basoz	Finalfa
Hussein	Goran	Abdo
Rava	Ehsan	Mammar
Frusha	Masoumeh	Abreham
Heimm	Ersine	Abdul
Shah	Gjon	Rashid
Hasmathul	Eſther	Ahmed
Rhayana	Fariba	Hesham
Amrullah	Mahdi	Ibrohim
Alan	Fatima	Akarkhan
Keti	Fatemah	Tayeb
Evan	Habiba	Alieu
Zara	Abdulrahman	Anwar
Hafiza	Hasina	Asim
Rumana	Munir	Atakilte
Naro	Ibrahim	Bahman
Najib	Zahra	Bereket
Nouman	Ilda	Bilal
Ramin	Florian	Diyari
Rodwan	Mandeep	Dung
Saeed	Kiranja	Edwin
Seyfadin	Attar	Eddy
Shahabapten	Mansour	Esben
Theo	Mariam	Fadi
Victor	Mehreen	Fathi
Yagoub	Shahid	Hamid
Yousef	Farooj	Hanad
Yaiisan	Pardeep	Haron
Zaid	Jagdeet	Sabr
Nafi	Gyan	Abdlkarim
Faisal	Pshtiwan	Hashmatullah
Davood	Azhen	Hoshman
Kajs	Rachael	Hedikarim
Arman	Rana	Hikmat
Saman	Setara	Kameran
Zobyrullah	Shada	Kedir
Monasceab	Shaiwan	Khalid
Senail	Rawa	Kheder
Pouria	Sandra	Mbaye
Merun	Gerardo	Ahsan
Awais	Shilan	Ebadur
Yousouf	Shirwai	Mhamad
Abdullahi	Rafiullah	Mohamed

Among many other wonderful participants who preferred to remain anonymous