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Syrian refugees’ folktales and legends, a storytelling performance

Enchanted camels and black ducks, about the girl who became a dog and how to outwit a lion... This storytelling performance is part of the project al-Hakawati which aims to preserve and disseminate the thousand year old Syrian storytelling tradition. The show is performed in Swedish and Arabic by professional storytellers from Fabula Storytelling and the Hakaya network and will go on tour in Sweden during the spring of 2015.

Where: Multicultural Center, Värdshusvägen 7, Fittja

The Cultural Heritage without Borders project al-Hakawati - The storyteller, funded by the Swedish Postcode Lottery, has been implemented in the current Syrian context, with millions of people fleeing a complex civil war, violence and destruction. In that context, we see that storytelling is a heritage of great value to strengthen identity and to provide individuals who are fleeing from their homeland with an opportunity to reconnect with a more positive side of their past.

The overall objective of the project is to spread knowledge about the Syrian folktales gathered and to bring them to life. A clear purpose is to increase the knowledge of Syrian history and cultural diversity without emphasizing the differences. The expected effect is increased self-esteem and a grounded identity which in themselves constitute a good base for understanding and accepting differences in others, says Annika Magnusson, Secretary General of Cultural Heritage without Borders.

This project promotes dialogue between people from areas affected by conflict and society at large, says Angelica Johnsson-Gerde, Acting General Manager at the Postcode Lottery Cultural Foundation.

The show is open to the public, free of charge and caters to everyone from 8 years. An anthology of stories in Arabic and English will also be awarded.

Cultural Heritage without Borders welcomes the press to the opening on February 19, at 18-20.

For interview questions, registration for the opening or any other information, please contact:

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Projektet är ett samarbete mellan