

In My Own Words

Since 2012, Road to Refuge has been on a mission to change the conversation on seeking refuge and asylum in Australia by providing a platform to amplify the voices and perspectives of those with lived experience of seeking asylum.

We work with people of refugee backgrounds to reclaim the mainstream discourse about them and reshape it: in their words and on their terms.

In 2019 we are launching our most concerted effort to date. **In My Own Words** is a storytelling and capacity building program designed to give young creatives of refugee backgrounds the skills they need to shape their story and let it be heard around the nation.

It's more than skills, It's ownership of story



I was 20 years old when I first started talking about how I came to Australia and how I came to be an Australian. The reason I decided to tell my story was because of the power I realised that it had. By talking about my background and sharing my experiences, I could see an immediate shift in people's perceptions of refugees. This made me feel powerful! It made me wish I had told my story earlier...if only I had had the skills, confidence and support I needed to do so. I started the 'In My Own Words' program to inspire the next generation of refugee storytellers to realise the power of their stories.

— Jeanine, Program Director.



Make your story heard!

Our goal is to support you to change the narrative of refugee stories in Australia, and to provide you with the skills you need to keep telling your story, in your own words, over and over again, until it's heard.

Through a series of workshops, collaborative sessions, and with a range of guest teachers including writers, artists, journalists, filmmakers, photographers and more, we will provide insight into the art and craft of storytelling in a variety of different formats.

You'll have the chance to develop your own project throughout the experience: whether a poem, a photo, an art piece, an exhibition, a dance. It will be your story, created your way.

Program outline

Storytelling in multiple mediums:

From written word to video, through to pod-casts and photo-books, there are many ways to communicate a story.

Navigating The Sector:

Learn how to manage the power structures, sources of influence and trends that make up the refugee sector in Australia.

Building a personal brand:

Building a personal brand that best represents you, and helps navigate where, how and when you'll tell your story.

Fundraising and Pitching:

How to pitch your project, and tailor your ask to funders to support you to develop and share your story.

Collaboration With Experts!

You'll have the opportunity to develop your story alongside leading advocates, professionals and storytellers who share a passion for social change.

Apply
now!

We believe creative storytelling is the most powerful tool we have to create change. Storytelling can be the circuit breaker to shift the misinformed and dehumanising narrative told about refugees and people seeking asylum in Australia. If you want to be a part of the change, we want to talk to you!

In My Own Words is designed for new to storytellers and those who want to build on existing skills and ideas. A passion for change and the willingness to learn are the only criteria we're looking for.

If you would like to apply for In My Own Words 2019 please visit www.roadtorefuge.com

Key dates

First Workshop | 4 April

Two and half hours at the Multicultural Hub.

Second Workshop | 10 April

Two and half hours at the Multicultural Hub.

Weekend Intensive | 4 & 5 May

Two full day workshops at the Brunswick Mechanics Institute

All meals provided at each workshop.

If you can't make a event or workshop, just let us know and we'll do our best to arrange a 1:1 make up time.