

Media Release

24 February 2020

International Women's Day 2020 Blacktown

Creative, powerful women to shine a light on how we can collectively help to create a gender equal world.

SydWest Multicultural Services is proud to announce that they will be hosting their **International Women's Day 2020** event at the **Blacktown Arts Centre** on **Friday 6th March from 6pm**.

The program will feature the launch of *Solace*, a poetic documentary about the recovery process of three displaced female poets. We learn about the poets in the video through observing their creative process and their production of a group music video clip.

SydWest is also pleased to announce that a group of high-profile women will join a Panel Discussion facilitated by Joanna Kalkstein. We will be discussing challenging stereotypes and fighting bias and discrimination, broadening perceptions and improving and celebrating women's achievements. Our confirmed panellists:

- **Dr Mehreen Faruqi, Greens Senator for NSW**
- **Sophie Cotsis MP for Canterbury and Shadow Minister for Better Public Services**
- **Clr Carol Israel, Blacktown City Council**
- **Clr Reena Jethri, Deputy Mayor of The Hills Shire Council**
- **Saba Vasefi, poet, academic, film-maker**
- **Elfa Moraitakis, CEO, SydWest Multicultural Services**

Entertainment during the event will include Hip-Hop artist **Kween G**, renowned for her potent content, she delivers a dynamic style as an MC, performer and Hip-Hop artist. **Kween G** makes music that excites, entertains, and enlightens her listeners – often described as “consciousness-raising”. Her fighting spirit – for women's rights and those in disadvantaged communities – courage and humility have earned her respect across the country.

International Women's Day is an important opportunity for SydWest Multicultural Services to bring together local and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) women to share in addressing the very real issue of gender equality and collectively finding solutions and ways forward.

We hope that our IWD event will inspire each woman to make change and fight for equality. The event is a wonderful opportunity to network with leaders in the community and make new

HEAD OFFICE

Blacktown

Level 2, 125 Main Street
Blacktown NSW 2148
Phone: 02 9621 6633
Fax: 02 9831 5625

Mt Druitt Office

Shop 3

6-10 Mount Street
Mt Druitt NSW 2770
Phone: 02 9625 0455
Fax: 02 9625 0322

Penrith Office

Community Connection
Building, Suite 113
114-116 Henry Street
Penrith NSW 2750
Phone: 02 9621 6633

Rouse Hill Office

Vinegar Hill Community Centre
Ground Floor
29 Main Street
Rouse Hill NSW 2155
Phone: 02 9621 6633

SydWest Multicultural Services

Connecting cultures. Building community.

connections to support ongoing collective change. Many of our guests are also displaced women and this event will hopefully help them in their quest to find their place and identity in our society.

www.sydwestms.org.au

info@sydwestms.org.au

ABN 70 963 234 638

STATEMENT ENDS /

For further information contact Vikki Hine, Public Affairs & Communications, SydWest Multicultural Services on vikki.hine@sydwestms.org.au or 9621 6633.

SydWest Multicultural Services is a leading organisation for all cultural diversity issues responding to community needs and opportunities. Established more than 34 years ago, SydWest provides a range of services to culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) individuals and communities services to assist with settling and living productive and independent lives in the community.

We offer flexible and integrated service models across the life course of refugees and migrants, supporting the self-determination and empowerment of our diverse communities. SydWest is an innovative employer of choice, with passionate, qualified and experienced bilingual and bicultural staff who are sensitive to the languages and cultures of the communities we represent. With locations in Blacktown, Mt Druitt, Penrith and Rouse Hill, we cover all matters of cultural diversity in the region.