



## EVENT PROGRAMME

### FIREWORKS FACTORY

#### **12pm – 12:45pm Tackling Britain's Housing Crisis**

We all need a safe, secure and warm place to call home. But across the UK, people are living in unsafe homes: sleeping in rooms full of black mould, fearing that their building's cladding might go up in flames and being forced out of their homes by ever-increasing rents. Unprecedented levels of homelessness are leaving families and children trapped in precarious temporary accommodation.

Kwajo Tweneboa, whose campaigning on social housing has seen him travel the country putting pressure on politicians and social housing providers to improve living standards, joins us for a rousing and urgent conversation on how to redress the balance and what radical action is needed to ensure we all have access to the housing we have a right to. Kwajo will be in conversation with community organiser and media professional Lucy Brisbane McKay (The Bureau of Investigative Journalism, New Economy Organisers Network).

Described as 'Britain's brightest social housing champion', activist Kwajo Tweneboa uses social media to give a voice to social housing tenants and expose the derelict living conditions that many are forced to endure. Highlighted by the Big Issue as a changemaker, Kwajo's documentary with Channel 4, Help! My Home Is Disgusting, helped tenants tell their stories. He has appeared on Sky News, Good Morning Britain and GB News, and featured in The Guardian and The Independent. Lucy Brisbane McKay is a media professional who has worked at the Standard, and now as a Community Organiser with the Bureau of Investigative Journalism, as well as facilitator with NEON - New Economy Organisers Network.

#### **1:45 – 3:15pm The Guilty Feminist podcast – Live!**

In this special live podcast recording, The Guilty Feminist will be exploring the situation faced by women and girls in Afghanistan - humanising the situation, looking at the reality on the ground both before and after 15 August 2020 when the Taliban took control, and how to support activists in the country who continue to fight for their rights. Host Deborah Frances White will be interviewing Samira Hamidi (Amnesty International's South Asia Regional Campaigner) and Parwana Fayyaz (Afghan poet, scholar and teacher of Persian literature). This session will celebrate the publication of a new annual report by AI Feminist Network on the State of Women's rights across the world. Copies will be available to attendees at the event.

The Guilty Feminist has had a spectacular 100 million downloads in seven years. This is the show that proves you don't have to be perfect to be a force for meaningful change. Come join The Guilty Feminist live and be part of this joyful movement.

#### **3:45 – 4:30pm Solidarity in action: Richard Ratcliffe in conversation**

Richard Ratcliffe, husband of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, led the campaign for her freedom over the long years she was arbitrarily detained in Iran. In conversation with Sacha Deshmukh, Chief Executive of Amnesty UK, he will discuss the role of campaigning in her case and eventual release, and the solidarity experienced as part of Amnesty's Write for Rights and subsequent campaigning.



## BEANFEAST

### 12:15 – 1pm Human Rights short films (ages 8+)

A programme of short animated and live action films for children, exploring human rights (from gender and migrants' rights to finding and using one's voice) in an accessible way.

Content info: contains dreams of drowning, recollection of dangerous sea crossing, and references to forced marriage. Languages spoken include English, Farsi and Italian. Some films are subtitled. Some have no dialogue.

Recommended for ages 8+

### 1:45 – 2:30pm Human Rights short films (all ages)

A programme of short animated films for young children, exploring human rights in a fun and accessible way. Languages spoken include English and French. Most films have no dialogue.

*Recommended for: all ages*

### 3:30 – 4:15pm Meet and Connect!

Amnesty Activists are at the heart of what we do. But... what do they actually do? Come and join us to explore the many ways you can campaign for human rights within the Amnesty movement. You'll get to meet activists from our networks (which focus on specific issues such as anti-racism, disabled people's human rights, gender rights, gender identity and sexuality, children's human rights, the death penalty...); hear about the inspiring campaigns they're working on and discover how you can get involved. Don't worry if you're new to activism—everyone is welcome!

### 4:45 – 5:45pm Storytelling workshop

Presented by Shado-mag, a multimedia platform driving change at the intersection of arts, activism and academia, this interactive workshop will introduce storytelling as a creative pathway to liberation.

Over the course of the session, participants will be encouraged to explore "lived experience storytelling" - what it is, and why is it important. Questions at the heart of this exploration will include the responsibility of storytellers; how we connect with others (across disciplines + geographies) through storytelling, and how to connect our struggles through storytelling.

The workshop will culminate in the creation of a shared 'collage' for collective liberation - encouraging members to contribute their own creative interpretation of 'their hopes for liberation', effectively creating a visual representation of shared struggles.

Recommended for ages 14+. No previous storytelling experience required.



## STONECUTTERS STUDIO

### 1pm – 1:45pm Youth against apartheid

The ongoing and historical human rights crisis in Israel and the Israeli Occupied Palestinian Territory has galvanised young people across the UK to stand up for the protection of human rights for all communities and call for an end to Israeli apartheid policies experienced by Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel. This session brings two young UK-based in conversation, as they discuss their campaigning for an end to human rights violations.

Featuring: Zena Agha, Palestinian-Iraqi writer, poet and multi-disciplinary artist from London, and Inès Georgis, a representative from Palestine Youth Movement.

### 3:30 – 4:15pm Climate Justice: a Human Rights Issue

As Amnesty, we are working with climate justice organisers across the UK and beyond to increase understanding of climate justice as a human rights issue, including building a campaign that aims to secure a level of justice for impacted communities in the Niger Delta. This session will help join the dots between climate justice, human rights, anti-racism and decolonisation: the climate crisis is a human rights crisis and the UK and supra-national organisations are culpable.

Featuring: Simeon Kpoturu, environmental activist, author and representative for MOSOP Nigeria (the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People) and climate and human rights campaigner Izzie McIntosh (Global Justice Now / Fossil Fuel Treaty).

### 4:45 – 5:30pm Sport and women's rights

As well as bringing people together and creating more welcoming communities, access to sport can address systemic inequalities and enable individuals to stand up for fundamental rights. This session will explore the revelatory impact of participation in sport, and the importance of access to sport for all women – especially those from marginalised backgrounds.

Chair Zuleikha Chikh, a multi-award-winning community sport collaborator, will be joined by Yashmin Harun MSc, BEM, a British sports advocate and the founder of Muslimah Sports Association, alongside two graduates of Amnesty's Women's Football Leadership Programme: Rahwa Beyene, an employment advisor and advocate for refugees and people seeking asylum, and Najma Arefi, a football player from Afghanistan and member of Girl Power UK. Together, they will explore the power of sport in the realisation of fundamental rights, and how targeted advocacy can address systemic inequalities.



## ROPEKEEPERS STUDIO

**1pm – 1:45pm**

### **Fighting Fortress Europe**

Every day, people make one of the most difficult decisions: to leave their homes in search of a safer, better life. They make treacherous, challenging and terrifying journeys in search of safety, a job, an education, freedom from persecution, or a better life for their children. In Europe, many of these people face violence, racism, police brutality, detention and surveillance as part of increasingly violent anti-migration policies of European states and the EU. These are often referred to as 'Fortress Europe'.

Activists in Europe are organising across borders to stand up for the rights of refugees and migrants, and challenge the systemic, trans-national mechanisms that buttress 'Fortress Europe'. This session will unpack how we can campaign together to bring down Europe's walls.

Featuring: writer, policy expert and campaigner Gracie Mae Bradley and Jason Thomas-Fournillier, a representative from Refugee Action, an organisation helping refugees build safe, hopeful and productive new lives in the UK. Chaired by: Ulrike Schmidt, a long-standing Amnesty activist and Country Coordinator for The Balkans

**2:15 – 3pm**

### **Guantánamo: Don't Forget Us Here**

22 years after the opening of an offshore detention facility specifically designed to evade the rule of law, the US government continues to detain 30 men in Guantánamo Bay. Most of these men have never been charged with a crime; none has had a fair trial. Many detainees were tortured.

The UK Guantánamo Network campaigns for the closure of the facility, and continues to shed light on the disastrous impact of Guantánamo on the rights of the remaining detainees, as well as the highly negative impact of the detention centre on the USA's human rights record – and that of allied countries.

Join Mansoor Adayfi (artist, activist, former Guantánamo detainee and author of *Don't Forget Us Here: Lost and Found at Guantánamo*) and Andy Worthington (independent journalist and human rights activist, and author of *The Guantánamo Files*) in a conversation chaired by Sara Birch (lecturer in law, human rights campaigner and co-convenor of the UK Guantánamo Network)

**4:45 – 5:30pm**

### **Rise up! Why we need Human Rights in our education**

How are young people advocating for their own rights and working to improve the UK's education system? In the context of increasingly racist violence, propped up by the media, this conversation will focus on the power of and need for human rights education (HRE). Hear from young people's own perspectives on education, and their experiences of activism. This session has been co-organised by AIUK Children's Human Rights Network (CHRN).

Featuring: Princess Kunadu (The Black Curriculum), Fatima Dambatta (Youth Collective) and Jemima Tshondo (CHRN). Chaired by Reem Abu-Hayyeh (Racial Justice Campaigner, Amnesty International UK).



## CHILDREN'S SPACE – COOPERS STUDIO

It's never too early to learn about human rights!

Amplify children's space will welcome all the family for creative fun.

Please note: the poetry workshops are aimed at children 7 –12. All other activities will be suitable for children of all ages.

Other spaces also offer activities for children: check out our Kids' Short films (in Beanfeast) and the drop-in creative sessions in the Fireworks side space.

### Drop-in creative play

Pop in to our Children's space to learn how to raise your voice and know your rights with creative activities – and our well stocked book corner!

Tumble in at any time during the following:

11:15am – 12:45pm

1:45 – 2:30pm

4:30 – 5pm

### 1pm – 1:45pm – Drag Tales Storytime

Can the colourful worlds of storybooks come to life? Join Dandy Issues for a fab hour of technicolour storytelling and singing delight, with readings from family favourites that create familiarity and ease – and enable children to experience a fun, inclusive space that fosters a sense of belonging, no matter what or who they are. Come in, get cosy, and be ready to be dazzled.

### Words that Burn: Poetry Workshop

**Workshop 1:**

**2:45 – 3:15pm**

**Workshop 2:**

**3:45 – 4:15pm**

*Each workshop can welcome max. of 20 participants – first come, first seated.*

*Suitable for children aged 7-12*

Through interactive activities designed for young creators, these empowering workshops invite participants to explore using poetry as a tool to express themselves and their response to human rights – with support and inspiration from poet Deanna Rodger.

Words that Burn is AIUK's human rights education programme. It aims to enable young people across the UK to explore and express human rights through poetry.



## INTERACTIVE SPACE

Amplify is a space for connection and conversation – and for action. Our interactive space (accessed from the Fireworks Factory's entrance 1) brings a more hands-on approach to human rights.

Grab a pen as part of **Write for Rights** and gain insight into the campaign from activists from Amnesty UK's Blackheath and Greenwich Group, or help create a powerful visual representation of solidarity in action.

Hosted by artist and workshop facilitator **Chioma Ince**, Crafting Connections is a creative space which champions the intersectional and collaborative ethos of cross-movement solidarity. It is all about sharing your thoughts, beliefs and ideas in a colourful, creative and expressive way! There will be a range of self-led and accessible activities suitable for all ages and abilities to get involved. Try your hand at making your own stamps, creating felt objects, leaving your mark with paint sticks and forming connections with yarn. All your creations will be added to a large-scale fabric throughout the day. By the end of the day the images, objects, and ideas of all those taking part will be in conversation with each other in a collaborative artwork.

## AMNESTY POP-UP SHOP – COOPERS FOYER

Open all day (closes at 5:45pm)

Come and do your Christmas shopping at the Amnesty pop-up shop in Coopers Foyer.

We will be selling our exclusive range of Amnesty Christmas Cards and ethically sourced products all handpicked by our fantastic retail team. All of our products are ethically sourced which means that no human has been harmed in their production. By shopping with us you are also ensuring that Amnesty International UK can continue to stand up for freedom, justice and equality.

If you want to shop the full range of our products then please visit [amnestyshop.org.uk](https://amnestyshop.org.uk) and if reading is your thing, then please visit one of our secondhand book shops [amnesty.org.uk/amnesty-bookshops](https://amnesty.org.uk/amnesty-bookshops)

## ACTIVISTS SPACE – WORKERS BAR

Open all day (closes at 5:45pm) - Drop by any time

Find out more about the campaigning work of Amnesty UK's **Feminist Network**, and delve into their 2023-2024 annual review of women's rights across the globe.

Live in London? Meet with representatives from AIUK **Local Groups** to find out more about how you could get involved, and the campaigns they are actively supporting.