The Mortenson Center for International Library Programs and the American Library Association (ALA) invite libraries to commemorate World Refugee Day 2020 and affirm:

We are the United States*, welcoming people born here or afar.
We are neighbors, diverse cultures, connected in common humanity.
We are libraries**, welcoming all - people, ideas and knowledge.
We strengthen our communities from the most vulnerable to the most affluent.

Note: We invite other organizations to use this statement, replacing the * with their own location, and the ** with their own organization type/name.

Webinar: From Refugee to Librarian: In our own words
Date/Time: June 18th, 12-1 pm CST
Moderator: Clara M. Chu, Director, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library
Abstract:
As librarians we have worked to create welcoming spaces and services for refugees. We have learned about them in order to support their resettlement and integration. The refugee stories we read about come from the communities we serve. How about the refugee stories that come from our own professional and academic community? In this webinar, we give voice to refugees who have become librarians or library educators. They will share their journey from persecution to resettlement to professional career, giving the listener a glimpse into their experiences of struggle, resilience, hope and belonging.
Registration: https://ala-events.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GfxBtMCT-aD7HI1-5f0BA

See ideas and resources at:
- Project Welcome: https://publish.illinois.edu/projectwelcome/world-refugee-day/2020-2/
- ALA World Refugee Day: http://www.ala.org/aboutala/world-refugee-day

Support/Celebrate #WithRefugees
- Learn ways to uphold and strengthen our commitment to welcome and protect those seeking freedom, safety and refuge in the world.
- Participate in UNHCR's #stepwithrefugees global challenge http://www.unhcr.org/ refugeeday/us/
- Host a Watch OR Listen Party

Panelists:
Constantia Constantinou H. Carton Rogers III Vice Provost and Director, Penn Libraries
Touger Vang Director, Montgomery Community College Library

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