

Speakers related to Mahalla Festival

A Festival of film, literature, contemporary art, debates and several activities combining events that invite local and international participants to mobilize visitors to explore communities under new aspects. The Festival is located in venues around Valletta, St. Lucija and Zabbar in Malta. Maltese and international participants are presented in exhibitions, concerts, performances, screenings and talks displaying different topics: language and migration, communities and diversity, new city cultures, mobile citizenship and future demands of communities. <http://mahalla.inenart.eu>

Heidi de Carlo is a learning support educator in a state school. This profession instigated her to teach English on a voluntary basis with migrant communities. She is the liaison person to link migrants to integrate with the local community in events like chocolate festival, multi-cultural night etc. This role entails to co-ordinate and explain the significance of delegating tasks in organising events. This assists migrants to share their ideas and celebrate diversity.

The Mahalla festival (a festival for short movies) was another fruitful experience which brought her creative thinking skills to action on a broader spectrum. During a few English sessions photography skills were executed. This encouraged students to pursue this hobby and to be aware what equipment is required. Ideas started to flow. Through these short movies in Antoine Cassar's poem sound effects such as – gentle waves brushing to and fro the shore, depicts the significance that these migrants have sought for brighter pastures in different lands. Furthermore, the door knockers short video transmits Malta in the colonisation of the past and the current situation. This is a gradual integration process into the Maltese society which is conducive to Inclusion.

Mohammed Ibrahim Suleman is a car sprayer from Sudan. Since his arrival on the island he has had a significant goal to integrate in the Maltese community. Presently he is also a member on the integration board to collate a set of policies for migrants / asylum seekers. The Mahalla festival has offered a fruitful experience to share with other people what he and his people had gone through, the culture difference, and the hardship he endured and suffered. For starters, he was inquisitive. He did not really understand the concept. With practise he realised there is a difference between amateurism and professionalism. Mohamed has an eye for detail. With a simple techno device he transmitted his message who he is.

Negmledin Soliman Arbab is Sudanese and 22 years old. He is attending an Electrical and electronics engineering course at university of Malta. The current year is his first. In 2017 / 2018 Ngam took part in a full marathon and half marathon on the island without a trainer. What kept him going was his determination and perseverance to achieve his goal! He took part in Rima Festival. It was a short film festival which exposed him to the film industry. In this situation he had a voice to speak for his human rights in a broader context.

Pawlos Yowhans is an IT student at MCAST. He is 23 from Eritrea. Music is his passion. The Mahalla festival was an opportunity to shoot a short video on Easter celebrations. It makes us aware where his roots are from. People from different countries get together to communicate and learn new ideas how to move on in life.

Malick Yahya Issak has a plastering company. One of his projects he undertook was the Old Market in Valletta. He and his staff worked so hard to bring this place back to its present glory. Furthermore, painting pictures is his passion. His pictures have been displayed at St. James Cavallier, Valletta which was named – The Great Book. Malick participated in a chocolate festival in the locality of Hamrun. He built a Maltese farmhouse with chocolate chips. Through his artistic skills he brought the old architecture to the forefront for all present to admire. It was another opportunity for Malick to feel accepted in the Maltese community. Moreover he kept on receiving requests for a repeat.