



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America

A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

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PRESS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Official Opening of Eleanor Roosevelt Gallery at United Nations Association San Diego

The United Nations Association of San Diego (UNA USA San Diego) created the *Eleanor Roosevelt Gallery*, an exhibition space hosted in its former Global Classroom offering artists from the substantial refugee community to showcase their work prominently in historic Balboa Park. On **Saturday, June 30, 2018**, the official inauguration is hosted **at 2 pm** in the United Nations Building, the Association's office since the mid-1950s due to Eleanor Roosevelt's personal negotiations with the City of San Diego.

Opening this three-month rotational exhibition opportunity, photographer and human rights activist Lucy O'Bryan is sharing her powerful photos featuring her work and travels with various international non-governmental organizations through conflict zones and the developing world. "Many of the people I meet have tragic stories of unimaginable pain. Yet they still have hope. Their hearts are broken but their spirits are not. If they can dream of a future built on a shattered past, what can we do to nurture that hope?" O'Bryan's first official show is co-sponsored by UNA USA San Diego's long-standing partner Pop Culture Hero Coalition with founder Chase Masterson.

President of the Board, Alina O'Tool is "thrilled to offer the former classroom to the broader community as a space of artistic expression" and actively supported the remodel idea by Executive Director, Bettina Hausmann, who saw the growing need for a prominent exhibition space for the countless talented artists within the San Diego Refugee Community. "This year, 2018 is simply perfect for such initiative," Hausmann said, "with the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, what better way to showcase our shared humanity." Both, Hausmann and O'Tool hope that wider access to artworks from the Refugee Community will cultivate an understanding and deepen an appreciation for the culturally diverse San Diego.

In finalizing application and selection processes for upcoming exhibitions proposals, UNA USA San Diego will work in close partnership with the San Diego Refugee Forum.

For media and press inquiries contact Bettina Hausmann bhausmann@unasd.org

About UNA-USA San Diego

As a program of the UN Foundation, UNA USA San Diego is promoting engagement with the United Nations. With its prestigious consultative status to the United Nations, UNA USA San Diego links the local community with the United Nations and vice versa. Fully volunteer-based, UNA-USA San Diego actively engages partners and stakeholders locally since 1946.

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