

Media Release

CONSTANCE COMES TO KINGSTON

For immediate release

1 June 2017

The new Australian documentary, Constance on the Edge, will be featured in a special Refugee Week free screening at the Civic Centre on Thursday, 15 June at 6.30pm.

Constance on the Edge follows charismatic Constance, mother of six, as she confronts her painful past in war torn Sudan, and risks everything in Australia so her family can thrive. Filmed over 10 years in rural New South Wales, the documentary is an unflinchingly honest portrayal of one refugee family's resettlement story in regional Australia.

"In Africa I was fighting for survival; in the refugee camp I was fighting for human rights; and here in Australia, I'm fighting for belonging," Constance explains.

Constance on the Edge premiered to a sold out audience at the Sydney Film Festival in June 2016 where it was voted second favorite documentary by the audience. In November 2016 it launched the Refugee Council of Australia's first ever Refugee Film Festival in Melbourne. In March the film was a finalist in the Australian Migration and Settlement Awards, in the category of excellence in journalism.

Director Belinda Mason says "It's a film for everybody. People have said that the film has really put a human face on the refugee experience and raised their awareness of the situation of refugees.

"Constance on the Edge gives audiences a way into the refugee experience – both the positives and negatives – and allows us to see beyond news and media reports that so often dehumanise refugees."

Kingborough Council is hosting the screening as part of its Refugee Week 2017 activities. Mayor Wass said "It is important to encourage discussion about the refugee experience. This free film screening is a way to keep the discussion open and perhaps broaden our understanding of what it can take to create a new life in Australia".





The Refugee Council of Australia is the national coordinator of Refugee Week, which will be celebrated between Sunday 18 and Saturday 24 June 2017.

This screening is being coordinated in the lead up to Refugee Week to recognise the contribution of refugees to our country.

Secure your free tickets for the screening via Eventbrite: <u>https://refugeeweekkingston.eventbrite.com.au</u> or call 6211 8170.

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For more information please contact Sarah Wilcox, Media & Communications Officer for Kingborough Council on 0428 033085 or 6211 8265.



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