



For Immediate Release
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My Life Experience

RICHLAND LIBRARY

Empathy Lab

ENVISION LIFE AS A REFUGEE THIS JANUARY

Richland Library Announces My Life Experience Empathy Lab Schedule

Columbia, SC- With discussions of undocumented immigrants, the border wall and national security making headlines across the country, **Richland Library wants to take a closer look at life through the eyes of a refugee. Throughout January**, the *My Life Experience Empathy Lab* is using virtual reality technology, so local residents can see what more than 68 million people face worldwide, according to the United Nations.

In this immersive and emotional experience, **"We Wait" transports you into the heart of the refugee crisis.** You travel alongside a terrified Syrian family who are crossing the sea, sharing their hopes and fears. "We Wait" is based on BBC News interviews with migrants.

The *My Life Experience Empathy Lab* is free and open to the public. It's tailored toward an adult audience. The lab is traveling across our library system as follows:

- **10 a.m. - 12 p.m., January 8** at our [Sandhills location](#)
- **2 - 4 p.m., January 10** at our [Main location](#)
- **5 - 7 p.m., January 14** at our [St. Andrews location](#)
- **10 a.m. - 12 p.m., January 22** at our [Northeast location](#)
- **2 - 4 p.m., January 24** at our [North Main location](#)



access freely.

- [5 - 7 p.m., January 28](#) at our [Ballentine location](#)
- [2 - 4 p.m., January 29](#) at our [Cooper location](#)
- [2 - 4 p.m., January 31](#) at our [Wheatley location](#)

In the coming months, the *My Life Experience Empathy Lab* also plans to focus on the issues of criminal justice and sexual assault. Please visit richlandlibrary.com for more details along with a time frame.

The *My Life Experience Empathy Lab* is made possible thanks to funding from the Central Carolina Community Foundation and Tides Foundation.

For questions, please contact Emily Stoll at 803-587-3637 or email estoll@richlandlibrary.com.

About Richland Library

Awarded the National Medal in 2017 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Richland Library is a vibrant, contemporary organization that provides resources and information that advance the Midlands. Offering state-of-the-art technology, a variety of literary and cultural programs and 12 bustling facilities located throughout the county, Richland Library provides a truly customizable, modern library experience for residents and visitors alike.

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