# SUITCASE STORIES

Suitcase Stories<sup>®</sup> is a signature program of the International Institute of New England that raises the profile of refugees and immigrants while strengthening community through the art of storytelling. IINE offers a suite of 'Suitcase' programming including large mainstage productions, custom showcases, 'Suitcase Stories Unpacked' storytelling workshops, and a podcast.

### SUITCASE STORIES IN THE COMMUNITY

Suitcase Stories<sup>®</sup> provides a way for a community to dig beneath the headlines, exposes audiences to the complexity of immigration issues, and directly impacts life-changing immigrant and refugee services.

IINE offers a suite of "Suitcase" programming that may be tailored for local partners. All programs aim to reduce bias and stereotypes and foster welcoming and inclusive communities.

See reverse for details on how community-based nonprofits, civic organizations and faith communities can bring this unique program to their membership.

### **ABOUT IINE**

Founded in Lowell, MA, in 1918, the International Institute of New England (IINE) is one of the oldest and largest social service organizations for new Americans in the region. Each year, we serve nearly 2,000 refugee, asylee, and immigrant clients across our three sites in Boston and Lowell, MA, and Manchester, NH.



International Institute of New England

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Cheryl Hamilton, Creator and Curator chamilton@iine.org 617.695.9990 | suitcasestories.org

### **MAKING AN IMPACT:**

SUITCASE

STORIES

"To hear the stories of immigrants at all stages of their assimilation was eye-opening and heartwarming."

- Boston audience member

## SUITCASE STORIES

# **IN THE COMMUNITY**

### SUITCASE STORIES LIVE

IINE's signature performance features both professional and emerging storytellers in a mainstage production designed for audiences of 250+ guests.

### SUITCASE STORIES COMMUNITY SHOWCASE

These smaller custom shows are produced in partnership with schools, universities, faith institutions, local partners and businesses. Community Showcase performances include a combination feature Suitcase storytellers combined with local voices.

### SUITCASE STORIES UNPACKED

A storytelling workshop focused on crafting personal immigration-related stories. The program teaches the art of storytelling while strengthening relationships between local residents of diverse backgrounds. Workshops may be combined with a community showcase featured some of the graduates.

### **MAKING AN IMPACT**

"Participating in Suitcase Stories was a memorable experience because it was the first time I have shared my story on stage with other refugees and immigrants to make our voices heard, and to be an advocate for the voiceless." Biar Kon, former Sudanese refugee



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