



*Toronto Monthly Meeting of the*  
**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY of FRIENDS** (Quakers)  
60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5R 1C7  
Refugee Office 416-964-9669

Toronto, ON. May 8, 2026

PRESS RELEASE

## **REFUGEE AID GROUP LAUNCHES LATEST ART SHOW**

To celebrate Refugee Awareness Day, we are holding a Refugee Art Show on Friday, June 12, 10am to 9pm and Saturday June 13, 10am to 5pm at Friends' House, 60 Lowther Avenue (convenient to the St. George subway station.) Free attendance. Wheelchair accessible. The official opening with refreshments will be on June 12 at 6pm.

Attached is a photo of a self-portrait that was sold at our most recent show. The painting of the blindfolded woman is by Badri Motamedi who was arrested while a university student and imprisoned in Iran for her political activity against the brutality of the Islamic government.

She spent four months of her five prison years blindfolded in solitary confinement. During that ordeal, she imagined herself a cocoon that one day would become a butterfly. Several years after her release, she painted *In Hope of Being Butterflies*.

The Quaker Committee for Refugees has organized at least five art shows in the past, giving newcomers an opportunity to share their feelings and stories with others at no charge. Sale proceeds go directly to each artist.

For more information: email Eusebio Garcia at [Quakercommittee4refugees@gmail.com](mailto:Quakercommittee4refugees@gmail.com) or telephone 416-964-9669. Garcia initiated the series of shows and is himself a refugee. He works full time helping refugees in Canada.