A refugee is a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, a natural disaster or persecution for their political or religious beliefs.
God our Father, 
creator of the world, 
you establish the order which governs all the ages. 
hear our prayer and give us peace in our time 
that we may rejoice in your mercy 
and praise you without end.
Eva Jiřičná
Award Winning Architect

Eva was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia and visited London in 1968 where she ended up staying because of the Soviet Union’s invasion of her homeland at that time.

She studied Architecture and Engineering at the University of Prague and received a Master of Arts (MA) degree from The Prague Academy of Fine Arts.

She is known for her attention to detail and work of a distinctly modern style. Eva is also famous for her steel and glass staircases and has become well known for her designs of some of London’s old buildings and turning them into useable spaces.

She spent eight years working on the design and construction of the Brighton Marina.

Over the last decade Eva’s contribution to architecture and design has been recognised with personal awards, including being made a Royal Designer for Industry, a CBE election as a Royal Academic by the Royal Academy of Arts. She holds honorary Doctorates and Professorships at several universities and teaches widely on her work.

Eva has a home in Prague and London and still works on architecture around the world.
Richard Rogers known as The Lord Rogers of Riverside was born on the 23rd July 1933 and is a British Architect noted for his high-tech architecture.

He was born in Italy and during the Second World War his parents moved to England as refugees where Richard went to School and later graduated from the AA School of Architecture in London. He has won many famous awards for his building designs which include the Lloyds Building and the Millennium Dome in London, the Welsh Parliament Building in Cardiff Bay and London’s Heathrow Airport Terminal 5.

In May 2006 Richard’s company was chosen to design the new World Trade Centre in New York City after the old Trade Centre was attacked by terrorists on September 11th 2001.
Mona Hatoum was born into a Palestinian family in Beirut, Lebanon in 1952 and now lives and works in London and Berlin. She was told to leave her country when war broke out in Lebanon and was not allowed to come back for many years. Whilst growing up her family did not support her passion to produce artwork. She continued to draw throughout her childhood though, illustrating her work from poetry or science classes. Her father didn’t want to send Mona to school because he wanted her to get a job instead.

Mona attended the Slade School of Art between 1979-1981. After Art School she began sculptural installations in 1989. Mona uses metal grid structures to suggest fences, cages, compartments and racks. She has participated in numerous important art exhibitions including The Turner Prize in 1995.
Michael Marks
Founder of Marks and Spencer

Michael Marks was born into a Jewish family from Poland. They fled to England in 1882. He moved to Leeds then later married a young woman called Hanna Cohen in 1886.

He met a man soon after called Isaac Dewhirst (the owner of a Leeds warehouse). Michael Marks started buying Dewhirsts goods and sold them in the streets of Leeds. This business became a sucess. Michael then went on went to sell his famous items and then he expanded his business empire to Yorkshire and Lancashire this then became the global brand we all now know as Marks and Spencers.
Gloria Estefan  
Singer and Songwriter

Gloria María Milagrosa Fajardo García de Estefan was born in Havana, Cuba on the 1st September 1957. Her stage name is Gloria Estefan.

Gloria was born to José and Gloria Fajardo. Two of her four grandparents were Spanish immigrants to Cuba. Her father was a Cuban soldier and a bodyguard to Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista.

Gloria’s family fled to Miami in Florida, (USA), as a result of the Cuban Revolution and settled down there. Shortly after they moved to the United States, Gloria’s father joined the U.S. military and fought in the Vietnam War.

Gloria attended Catholic Schools in North Carolina and Our Lady of Lourdes Academy in Miami.

She is one of the world’s best selling artists of all time, with an estimated 90 million records sold worldwide, including 31.5 million of those in the United States alone. She has won seven Grammy Awards and is the most successful performer in Latin music to date. Gloria lives with her husband and son in Miami.
Piet Mondrian
Artist

Piet Mondrian, born Pieter Mondrian was a Dutch artist who played an integral role in the De Stijl (or the neoplasticism) movement.

He attended Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten and the Royal Academy.

In 1938, Mondrian moved to London from Paris to escape fascism there. He stayed in London for two years and then moved to New York where he died in 1942.

He has created many works, and is well known for his style: vertical and horizontal lines put together like a grid with the squares in them filled with primary colours. Although one unfinished piece used coloured tape instead of oil paints, suggesting Mondrian was going to change his style radically.
Lakshmibhai Pathak
Founder of Pathak Curry Pastes

Lakshmibhai Pathak (pictured right) in the family’s London shop.

Lakshmibhai Pathak is the founder of the Pathak’s Food Company. He was also a refugee from Kenya, East Africa. The family started their company by making curry pastes in their kitchen and selling it to their friends and neighbours.

Pathak’s has now grown into a brand of curry pastes, spices and ready meals which are available in all major UK supermarkets and other large retailers throughout Europe and North America. The Pathak’s brand was sold to Associated British Foods on 30th May 2007 for £200 Million.
Regina Spektor
Grammy Award Winning
Singer and Songwriter

Regina Spektor was born on the 18th February 1980 in Moscow, Russia. She is the daughter of Ilya Spektor a Photographer and Bella Spektor a Professor of Music. She’s from a Jewish family. She left Russia because of ethnic and political discrimination that Jews faced in this country. Regina and her family travelled first to Austria and then to Italy. After that Regina’s family was admitted to the United States of America (USA), as refugees with the help of the H.I.A.S (The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society). She is now based in New York.

She won a Grammy Award for her music this year in 2014.
Justine Frischmann was born in Kensington, London to Wilem Frischmann, a Jewish-Hungarian Holocaust survivor who is chairman of the Pell Frischmann Company of consulting engineers, and to a Jewish-Russian mother. Frischmann grew up in Twickenham and attended St Paul's School.

She was in a band called Elastica in the 1990's and was very much a part of the Britpop scene along with bands such as Blur, Pulp, Oasis, Suede, Sleeper and Lush. Before she was in Elastica she had a career in Suede. Justine now lives in San Fransisco, USA as an artist.
Alfred Wolmark
Painter

Alfred Wolmark was born on the 6th January 1877 in Warsaw, Poland. He emigrated to England in 1883 (which was probably a sad time for Alfred but he became a British Citizen in 1894.

He studied at the Royal Academy Schools where he won a Silver Medal for one of his paintings.

Alfred married Bessie Tapper in 1911 and they had two sons and a daughter. Unfortunately Alfred died in 1961.

His paintings are now in many art galleries around the world including The National Portrait Gallery in London.
Wyclef Jean  
Singer, Musician, Actor and Politician

Wyclef was born on the 17th October 1969 in Croix-des-Bouquets in Haiti which is in the Caribbean. He is the son of a pastor and in 1982 Wyclef moved with his family to New Jersey, (USA).

He is most famous for being a part of the band called ‘The Fugees’ which is a play on the word refugees. Their album ‘The Score’ sold more than 15 million copies worldwide. Wyclef has worked with many other artists and bands including Shakira and most recently Fuse ODG. Wyclef composed the title song on the soundtrack for the film ‘Hotel Rwanda’ which was about the Rwandan Genocide of 1994.

In August 2010 Wyclef made headlines when following the earthquake that hit Haiti, he announced that he would be running for President. He has also fought for more aid and support to help the victims of the 2010 earthquake.

Unfortunately he did not become President of Haiti because he no longer lives in Haiti.
Camille Pissarro
Artist and Painter

His original name was Jacob Abraham Camille Pissarro.

He was born on the 10th July 1830 and he died on the 13th November 1903 (aged 73) in Paris, France.

He was a Danish-French painter born on the island of St Thomas (now in the US Virgin Islands, but then in the Danish West Indies).

But he is now known as Camille Pissarro for his famous artistic work. His importance comes from his contributions to both Impressionism and Post-Impressionism. Camille studied from other artists including Gustave Courbet and Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot. He later studied and worked alongside Georges Seurat and Paul Signac when he took on the Neo-Impressionist style at the age of 54.

Camille did a total of 24 paintings.
Montague Burton (15th August 1885 - 21st September 1952) was a Lithuanian Jew who became a refugee as he left his home country and came to stay in Manchester, England in 1900. He was forced to leave Lithuania because of persecution against Jewish people and their faith of Judaism. He married a woman named Sophie Marks and opened a clothes retail business called Burton which turned out to be hugely successful and changed his life for the better.

He studied at the University of Leeds. When he was 18 years old, Montague burrowed £100 from a relative to open a “cross tailoring” Men’s clothing retailing company in Chesterfield called Burton. He quoted that “Good clothes develop a man’s self-respect.” The business became more popular and successful and today many men shop in Burton for high quality clothes, suits and shoes.

Burton and his business contributed to many fundraising activities and donated money to many charities.

He was knighted by the Queen in 1931 with the honor of being called ‘Sir’ Montague Burton.

But unfortunately after all his success Sir Montague Burton died on the 21st September 1952 because of old age.
Charles Saatchi
Business and Advertising

Charles was born on the 9th June 1943 in Baghdad, Iraq. Charles left Iraq because of rising levels of insecurity, violence, and targeted persecution.

Charles Saatchi with his brother Maurice created the world’s largest and most famous advertising agency Saatchi & Saatchi. Charles is also known as an art collector and the owner of the Saatchi Art Gallery.

He sponsors Young British Artists two of whom include Damien Hirst and Tracey Emin.

Charles is still working as an artist in London.
Daniel Morat
Architect

Daniel Morat was born in Paris in 1661 and died in 1752. Daniel was an architect decorative designer. He was a protestant and left France in 1685 when French Protestants were not allowed any of the religious and civil rights that were formerly given to them. Soon after Daniel emigrated to Holland, he entered the service of the Prince of Orange and also worked for private clients. In 1694 he followed the prince, by that time William III of England, to London, returning in about 1698 to Holland, where he continued to work for both the princely family and private patrons until his death. In the Netherlands Marot’s designs for William III included the chamber later known as the Armistice, or Truce, Hall at The Hague (c. 1697) and apartments and gardens at Het Loo, a palace built as a hunting lodge in the province of Gelderland (c. 1692).

Daniel is most famous for designing Hampton Court Palace which was once the home of King Henry VIII
ANISH KAPOOR
TURNER PRIZE
WINNING ARTIST
AND SCULPTOR

ANISH KAPOOR WAS BORN ON 12TH MARCH 1954 IN BOMBAY (NOW MUMBAI), INDIA.

HE MOVED TO LONDON TO STUDY AT THE HORSEY COLLEGE OF ART.

DURING THE 1980’S ANISH WAS INCREASINGLY RECOGNIZED FOR HIS BIOMORPHIC SCULPTURES MADE WITH LOTS OF DIFFERENT MATERIALS SUCH AS STONE AND ALUMINIUM.

ONE OF HIS BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE IS DESIGNING ‘THE ORBIT’ AS PART OF LONDON’S OLYMPIC PARK. IN 1991 HE WON THE TURNER PRIZE FOR ART, THIS IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST AND MOST FAMOUS AWARDS AN ARTIST CAN RECEIVE.
Mario Stanic  
Professional Footballer

Mario Stanić was born on the 10th April 1972 and is a former Bosnian-born football player. He used to play for Sarajevo Football Club but they were targeted during the Bosnian War.

Stanić joined Chelsea Football Club on a £5.6 million transfer in June 2000. Stanić made his league debut in a 4–2 home win against West Ham United in August 2000, where he scored a brace, one of them a strike from 35 yards. The goal was later nominated for the Goal of the Season on the BBC’s Match of the Day programme.
Bob Marley

Bob Marley’s full name was known as Robert Nesta Marley. He was born on the 6th of February 1945 in Jamaica in a village named Nine Mile. He died on the 11th of May 1981 (aged 36) in Florida, (USA).

Bob Marley left Jamaica because he got shot during political violence and fled to Miami in Florida therefore making him a refugee.

His wife Rita Marley married him in 1966 he was her husband until the day he passed away. Rita Marley was one of Bob’s backup singers in his band called The Wailers. His mother, Cedella Brooker Marley gave birth to Bob Marley at the age of 18, a singer herself, she took care of Bob by herself as his dad died when Bob was only ten. During his life Bob Marley had four daughters that would follow in his creative footsteps through music, fashion and museum work. Sharon, Cedella, Karen and Stephanie have all made contributions to the Marley family legacy. Banding together with their brothers Ziggy and Steven, Sharon and Cedella toured together as singers in the Melody Makers.
Jerry Springer
TV Presenter and Talk Show Host

Jerry Springer is a British-American talk show host best known for his talk show ‘The Jerry Springer Show’. He is also a former nominee for the Governor of Ohio (USA).

Jerry is a journalist, talk show host and politician. He was born on the 13th February 1944 in a tube station in London. His parents Margot (a bank clerk) and Richard Springer (owner of a shoe shop) were Polish Jews who escaped from Germany during the Second World War. Jerry was born soon after the family emigrated to London but by the time Jerry was 5 years old his family moved on again, this time to the Queen’s area of New York City in the USA.

In addition to his success on TV Jerry became a morning radio talk-show host. His ‘Springer on the Radio’ show hit the airwaves in Cincinnati, Ohio on the 17th January 2005.
ALEK WEK
SUPERMODEL

ALEK WAS RAISED WITH 8 OTHER SIBLINGS!
SHE HAS BECOME FAMOUS FOR CHANGING TRADITIONAL IDEAS OF BEAUTY WITHIN THE FASHION INDUSTRY IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA.

ALEK COMES FROM THE DINKA ETHNIC GROUP IN SOUTH SUDAN IN AFRICA BUT FLED TO THE UK IN 1991 TO ESCAPE THE CIVIL WAR IN SUDAN. SHE NOW LIVES IN NEW YORK WITH HER HUSBAND AND BABY.
Victor Hugo
Author of Les Misérables and The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Victor was born in France in 1802.

Because of his political beliefs he was forced to flee France several times.

He wrote many famous novels that have now been turned into world famous musicals.

He died on the 22nd May 1885.
Sir John Tenniel
Cartoonist and Book Illustrator

Sir John Tenniel was born on the 28th February 1820 in Bayswater, West London. He is the descendent of Huguenot refugees.

In 1840 while practising fencing with his father, John received a serious wound in his eye. As a result of this John gradually lost sight in his right eye but he never told his father how serious this wound was because he did not want to upset him.

John became a student at the Royal Academy and in 1836 he sent his first picture to the exhibition of the Society of British Artists. In 1845 he contributed a 16 foot (4.9m) cartoon for which he won a £200 prize which was worth a lot of money in those days. Afterwards he received permission to paint for the House of Lords. He is most famous for being the illustrator of Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland books.

John died three days before his 94th birthday on the 25th February 1914.
Sigmund Freud
Psychoanalyst

Freud was born to Jewish parents in the town of Pribor now part of the Czech Republic. His father, Jakob Freud (1815–1896) was a wool merchant. He fled from the Nazi’s in Austria.

Freud qualified as a doctor of medicine at the University of Vienna in 1881 and then carried out research into cerebral palsy and neuroanatomy at the Vienna General Hospital. He was appointed a university lecturer in neuropathology in 1885 and became a professor in 1902.

He is most famous for developing a form of therapy for the mind called Psychoanalysis.
Marc Chagall
Artist

Marc Chagall was a prominent Russian artist of the 20th century. His father’s name was Zakhar Chagall who worked in a factory and his mother Ida Chagall worked in their family home and ran a grocery store. Marc was born on 6th July 1885 in Vitebsk, Russia. He fled to France with his family during the Second World War.

Marc Chagall attended Vitebsk’s Art College, Hesser College in Portsmouth and school in Paris.

Marc Chagall liked doing stained glass windows and large paintings including part of the ceiling of the Paris Opera House.
Rachel Weisz
Oscar Winning Actress

Rachel is the daughter of Austrian and Hungarian Parents who fled as refugees to England from Central Europe before the start of World War 2.

Rachel Weisz was born on 7th March 1970, in London to Edith an Austrian-born psychoanalyst, and George Weisz, a Hungarian-born inventor. Her father invented respirators that supplied their own oxygen and machines that sense land mines.

Rachel studied English at Trinity Hall, Cambridge University. Whilst at university she formed the Talking Tongues theatre company and at 1991's Edinburgh Festival won a student drama award for a play she wrote and acted in.

She has starred in many films including the ‘The Mummy’ ‘The Mummy Returns’ and ‘Enemy at the Gates’.

She was the 127th actress to receive an Academy Award; she won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar for the film The Constant Gardener in 2006.

She divides her time between London and New York and in 2011 she married James Bond actor Daniel Craig.
Jacob Epstein
British Sculptor

Jacob Epstein was an American born British sculptor whose parents were Polish refugees. He was one of the greatest sculptors of the 20th century.

Jacob Epstein was born on the 10th November 1880 in New York. He moved to Europe in 1902 and became a British citizen in 1911.

He studied art in New York as a teenager, sketching the city, and joined the Art Students League of New York in 1900. He then moved to Paris.

Epstein died on the 21st August 1959 in London.
Jackie Chan
Actor, Martial Artist, Director and Producer

Jackie Chan was born in British Hong Kong on the 7th April 1954. He was given the name Chan Kong-Sang by his parents who worked for the French Ambassador in Hong Kong. His parents fled from China as refugees from the Chinese Civil war.

Jackie attended the China Drama Academy where he trained for 10 years in martial arts and acrobatics. After entering the film industry he eventually achieved a Black Belt.

He fled to the United States from Hong Kong after being threatened with death by the notorious gang The Triads.

He is most famous for his Kung Fu scenes and roles in the ‘Rush Hour’ series of Hollywood films for which he has won several MTV Movie Awards.

Jackie is still working in the film industry and lives in the USA.
Tanya Sarne
Fashion Designer

Tanya was born in 1945, the daughter of a French-Jewish mathematician who escaped from the Nazis to London during the Second World War. Her mother was a Romanian journalist.

She was awarded the OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) in the 2011 Queen's New Years Honours List for her services to the fashion industry. She is a fashion designer and creator of the Ghost Label.
Hotel Rwanda Soundtrack
‘A Million Voices’ by Wyclef Jean (Featuring The African Children’s Choir)