

**FAWCO Region 5 Meeting
Berlin, November 11-13, 2016
BRIDGING WORLDS**



Panel Discussion: Refugees Integration through Education

Molly Moylan Brown (AWC Berlin) - moderator

Under the auspices of the AWC, Molly conceived and has been delivering music and theatre-based team-taught English classes to teenage refugees. As one of 10 children raised in Cold War West Berlin, Molly learned that all stories are multifaceted. She believes that we all contribute to and are enhanced by the larger, transformative 'we' that arises from our embrace of difference and the celebration of our shared humanity. A NYC-trained professional actor, Molly founded and directed Some Assembly Required - a theatre company that used collaborative storytelling, musical, and improvisation techniques to both entertain and teach. She holds a Master of Philosophy degree from Trinity College, Dublin and has served as an Adjunct Professor at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She is a member of SAG-AFTRA, AEA, SDC, and is a certified Montessori teacher. She and her two sons currently reside in Berlin.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Matthias Nowak, Head of the Malteser-run refugee centers at ICC and in Neukölln

Matthias Nowak studied law, was a journalist for more than 25 years (radio, TV, online). Since 2012, he has been Head of PR for Malteser in North- and East Germany. Since October 2015, he has also become the Head of Refugees Work for Malteser in Berlin.

PANELISTS

Marion Detjen, Professor at Bard College Berlin

Marion Detjen studied European history and German literature and linguistics in Berlin and Munich, where she received her MA and passed her first state exam. She worked for several years as a freelance curator and wrote books on contemporary German history, before receiving her PhD from Freie Universität Berlin with a dissertation on rescue helpers after the building of the Berlin Wall. Marion worked and taught at Humboldt University and has now a DFG-position at the Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung (Center for Contemporary History) in Potsdam. She is currently also writing a biography on the German-American publisher in exile Helen Wolff. Her historical interests include German post-war history, migration history, the history of



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publishing and cultural transfer, biography and oral history, public history, gender, and the relationship between the private and the public. Marion is a regular contributor to the column „10nach8“ at ZEIT-Online as part of its editorial team, and is a co-founder of "Wir machen das," a coalition of action focused on the current migration crisis.

Lissy Eichert, Co-Founder JACK, an Educational Place for Migrant Women

Lissy Eichert is a Catholic theologian of the Archdiocese of Berlin. Mrs. Eichert works in the parish of St. Christophorus in Neukölln and is a member of the lay order of the Pallotti community. She is the co-founder of JACK - an Educational Place for Migrant Women.

Susann Heida, Wilkommensklasse teacher for students, ages 12-17

Born in Berlin Charlottenburg to a German mother and Egyptian father, Susann Heida moved to Egypt when she was 13 to learn Arabic and get to know her father's culture. She attended German school in Alexandria and graduated from the University of Alexandria with a degrees in Accounting and Economics from the English department Faculty of Commerce. She was also trained as a teacher for German as foreign language (DaF) by the Goethe Institute. She returned to Germany in 2006 for her masters degree and after working in tourism, foreign service, and development aid, she became a teacher. She taught first only adults, then later children and now refugee teenagers, from basic knowledge to the level A2.2./ B1.

Photography Exhibit *FORGOTTEN CITY* by Hayyan Al-Youssouf

Hayyan Al-Youssouf is from Deir Ezzor, on the shores of the Euphrates River, the largest city in eastern Syria. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Aleppo and a Master's degree in Agricultural Science from the Al-Furat University's Department of Agricultural Engineering with a specialization in agricultural technology and the remediation of contaminated land. From 2011-2014, he contributed to the Syrian citizens' fight for freedom and dignity with photographic documentation of daily life in his war-torn hometown, for which he was imprisoned for several months. In August of 2014, Hayyan, together with three friends, fled Syria, taking the "Balkan Route" to Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, where he applied for asylum. He was granted asylum a year later and now lives in Berlin. Since arriving in Germany, he has had four photography exhibitions. His desire is to afford people a closer look at the situation in his country.



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Presentation: Aging with Grace and Dignity

Elizabeth Kelly and Rozanne Van Rie - AWC Antwerp

Elizabeth Vennekens-Kelly is an intercultural trainer, consultant, and the author of *Subtle Differences Big Faux Pas*. Elizabeth combines her familiarity of expat living and intercultural knowledge to help individuals to deal with the complexities of living and working abroad. She trains individuals working in multi-cultural settings, people who are relocating overseas and those returning home, to effectively interact in and manage the varied situations they encounter. One of Elizabeth's recent project has been researching the issues of *Caring for Aging Loved Ones from Around the World*. She is a member of various organizations: AWC of Antwerp, VOKA, VIW, ABRA, AWIN, SIETAR and FIGT.

Rozanne Lofaso-Van Rie, a NYC native, has been a member of the American Women's Club of Antwerp and FAWCO for more than 7 years. She spearheaded the fundraising for initiation and development of the first of three 'Borst Lounges' in local hospitals used for breast cancer patients and their families. These are specifically used to facilitate communication of treatment plans, education and provide much needed peace and discussions during difficult times.

Professionally, as a Registered Nurse, certified in Hospice and Palliative Care, Rozanne was hired to begin the Oncology Case Management program in a major Managed Care Organisation in the Washington DC area. Tasked to bring about a change in the focus of End of Life Care with Oncology patients in part by providing an alternative/complementary approach to communication and Palliative Care. Rozanne researched and reported on the effects of good communication prior to severe illness. Although 'retired', Rozanne shares her experience to help foster and facilitate good end of life care through Advance Care Planning and Communication in the myriad of topics and possibilities.



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Presentation: Social Media Success

Christine Funke (AIWC Cologne) and Susanne Ollmann (AWC Berlin)

Christine Funke is an American expat living in Germany, and has lived overseas for more than 10 years. She has her own business, Spark Virtual Assistance, supporting women business owners and freelancers with their online marketing, like blogging, websites, email newsletters and social media. She volunteers regularly with FAWCO doing communications and branding, working with the Target Program for Education, and contributing to the Strategic Planning Committee. She has managed the communications room at both the Brussels and Frankfurt Conferences. Learn more at www.sparkvirtualassistance.com.

Susanne Ollmann, Founder of OllmannCreative.com, is a Certified Social Media Strategist (SMMU) and accredited PR Professional (PRSA) with a Master's in International Business Diplomacy from Georgetown's School of Foreign Service, and degrees in Graphic Design and English/German. She advises businesses on social media strategy, designs websites, and captures people and products at their most beautiful through a combination of professional photography and digital editing. Prior to relocating to Germany, she served as Asst. Vice President at a large DC-based trade association, representing industry concerns to U.S. and foreign governments in Europe and Asia, and as Chief Strategist for the International Department of AARP. She was a recipient of the Robert Bosch Foundation fellowship and fellowships at the German Parliament and the European Commission. She is fluent in English and German, speaks some Japanese, loves making jewelry with antique beads, and has launched a travel blog, WorldTravelMama.com, to chronicle her upcoming, one-year, round-the-world travel adventure with her 10 year-old daughter.

