Art for social change and positive living

Body Map & Photo Voice in Galkayo
Art for social change and positive living

Body Map & Photo Voice in Galkayo
Contents

On being and not belonging in Galkayo 6

What is a Body Mapping? 8

What is PhotoVoice? 9

Introduction 12

Art as a Way of Knowing 18
On being and not belonging in Galkayo

Look, at the internally displaced persons, look at our division, look at our clannism, smell the stench of death at times, the cost of our education, the role of the elders, count the money you have stolen, our lack of dialogue, prejudices, yours and mine — that is all you and me as well
Look at the beauty of our culture, the love for my ancestors, a time before that never existed for me, their values, our hopes - yours and mine - our actions, an inner peace to come, the love and peace we wish for all of us, the treasure I carry and we carry in each of us — that is all you and me.

Galkayo Body Map and Photo Voice Participants
What is a Body Mapping?

Body Mapping is a creative tool that brings together bodily experience and visual artistic expression. In its basic form, it involves painting a life-size representation of one’s body onto a large surface and use vibrant colors, pictures, symbols and words to represent experiences. These works are made by non-professional artist and provide a time for creativity, critical thinking, stock taking and ultimately engage people in a better understanding and respect of one and another. The method provides a creative vehicle for expression that is not dependant on literacy levels. Since the individuals depicted in the body maps are never reduced to stereotypes but rather express personally lived experience, the maps have the potential to break down barriers, both in the process of their development and in sharing them with a wider audience.
Photo-Voice is a methodology rooted in both photojournalism and international development where participants are asked to represent their point of view or opinion by photographing scenes/images relevant to the examined group or topics approached.

In its most common form, Photo-Voice focuses on specific issues and for the purpose of this project focused on Belonging/not belonging. It aims at bringing lasting change and critical thinking to its participants, empowering them to inform others and be actively involved in decisions that affect their own lives and their community’s development.

**What is PhotoVoice?**

Photo-Voice is a methodology rooted in both photojournalism and international development where participants are asked to represent their point of view or opinion by photographing scenes/images relevant to the examined group or topics approached.
Method of Enquiry and Analysis:

S H O W E D

1. What do you see here?
2. What is really happening here?
3. How does this relate to our lives?
4. Why was this process, challenge, concern, struggle, death, etc.
5. What can we do about it?
Introduction

UNFPA Somalia implemented the Youth Culture and Art Project between October 2018 and February 2019 as part of its youth programme. UNFPA worked with Art2Be, an organisation seeking to bring about social change and positive living to society through Art, in this instance by engaging young people from across the divide in South and North Galkayo. We conducted several artistic and creative workshops designed to encourage young people to take a critical and reflective perspective on their place and role in their society. The objective was to harness the power of culture and art to contribute to integration and peace among Galkayo’s young men and women.

Galkayo is the capital of the north-central Mudug region of Somalia. Formed in 1998, Galkayo is a city divided between two federal states, Galmudug and Puntland. Its division also mirrors the larger division between two dominant rival clan families - the Darod and the Hawiye. The city has been the centre of clashes for many years resulting from mistrust between the two clans dating back to 1993.

In recent times, the city has grown considerably —estimated population, 545,721— and serves as a commercial hub.

Hayada Sanduuqa Dadweynaha ee -UNFPA Soomaaliya waxay hirgelisay Mashruuc Dhaqanka iyo Fanka Dhalinyarada intii u dhaxaysay Oktoobar 2018 iyo Feebari 2019 iyada oo qayb ka ah barnaamijkeeda dhalinyarada. UNFPA waxay la shaqeysay Art2Be, oo ah urur ujeedadiisu tahay in uu abuuro nolol fiican iyo isbeddel bulsheed oo bulshada dhexdeeda ah iyadoo adeegsanayso Art-ka, si aq uga qayb galan dadka dhalinyarada ah ee ka soo horjeeda kala qaybsanaanta koonfurta iyo waqooyiga Gaalkacyo. Waxaan qabannay dhowr farsamooyin farshaxan iyo hal-abuur si ay dhallinyaradu u galaan aragi muhiim ah oo muuqaal leh oo ku saabsan goobta iyo doorka ay ka ciyaaraan bulshadoona. Ujeedada ka qaybqaadashadu waxay ahayn la xoojiyo awooddha dhaqanka iyo farshaxanka si ay gacan uga geysato isdhexgalka iyo nabadda ee Wiilasha iyo Gabdhaha kunool magaalada Galkacyo.


Magaaladu si aad ah ahey u korodhay waqtiyadii dhowaa waxaana ay u adeegtaa xarun ganacsii. Waxay leedahay dad lagu qiyaasay 545,721 qof.

Mashruucan farshaxanku wuxuu ka caawiyay dhallinyarada ka socota Gaalkacyo in ay fududeeyaana dadaalka nabadda ee magaalad
The art project has helped Galkayo’s young people promote and facilitate peace-building efforts in their divided city, giving them reason to mobilize and collaborate, while providing them with a voice where they had none before.

This initiative has promoted dialogue, provided spaces, tools and skills enabling the young people to appreciate and value their cultural history of peace and helping ensure unity and integration.

It was heartening to see young people from the warring sides of the city join forces on 15 May 2019 to celebrate the 76th anniversary of the Somali Youth League (SYL), the nation’s first political party, which played such a key role in the independence movement from the 1940s to the 1960s. The Youth Culture and Art Project’s mission is to contribute towards a long-term change in attitudes and practices for social transformation, unity and solidarity. The art works produced by the young people (photos, texts and life-size paintings) allowed participants to tell their life stories and share their concerns and aspirations while creating new approaches to peace-building.

Art and cultural expression are important tools in promoting interaction between communities, giving expression to views and opinions and facilitating discussions among and between communities that enhance their ability to explore various understandings of peace and conflict and of broader socio-economic issues.

Just as creating art opens internal space for the “artist”, displaying the art opens external space for communities to gather and reflect on its meaning. Art and cultural expression also allow a space for acknowledging difference and advocating for
Art for Social Change and Positive Living

UNFPA Somalia, 2019

creative, non-violent transformation by engaging with a wide range of individuals across ethnic, religious and age lines. The use of art and creative processes builds bridges across divides and inspires hope for a more peaceful future.

We are optimistic that the youth that were given training of trainers on body mapping and photo voice can use the knowledge to create awareness in schools and communities using Art.

UNFPA is proud to report that we have recently created three physical spaces for youth that enable young artists to converge and have an impact in their communities

Introduction by Anders Thomsen,
UNFPA Somalia Representative
I am the fruit of this country. My country should make use of anyone that has something to offer.

Waxaan ahay dhaaminkii wadanka waxaan tabayaa dadkayga oo iga faaidaysta soomaaliyeed kaca oo tashada.

Somalia does not belong to one person - it is for everyone. The death of Somalis will not end the existence of Somalia.

Soomaali oo dhan baa ileh imalalaha reer ama dad gaar ah hadii ay dhintiin dadkii idhisay ma aha inaan dad waayay soomaliyeey.

I am like the sun which rises and sets every day. I haven’t met people who make the most out of my abilities.

Waxaan ahay qorax soo baxda oo hadana dhacda maalinkasta mahelin dad iga faaidaysta wuxtarkayga.
Our land is very rich. We can be self-sustainable. There is enough for everyone. Our culture is just as rich.

Dhulkeenu waa barwaago, dalagiius waanagu filanyahay dhaqankana hodan baan ka nahay

We are a people that speak one language and share one culture and religion so why are we fighting? What is stopping us from coming together?

Inagoo ah dad isku af, dhaqan iyo diin ah maxaa isku dagaalaynaa? Maxaa inoo diiday inaynu midoowno?

The mosque is the only place where the old, the young, the poor and the rich can come together. It symbolizes togetherness and should be protected at all costs.

Masaajidku waa meesha kaliya bulshada ku kulmaan dhalinyaro, waayeel, taajir iyo faqiir wuxuu calaamad u yahay midnimo fadlan midnimadeena aan ilaashano
Art as a Way of Knowing

By Xavier Verhoest

October 2018 till January 2019, Galkayo—15 days, 16 youths, from the city’s North and South. All the same, all different, they met and opened to each other. With paints and brushes, they made these Body Maps, these life size paintings. With cameras, they took photos. With guts and feelings, their innermost voices addressed messages to Galkayo. In sharing they exposed their inner and collective experiences to one another.

They evoked as they expressed and elicited, dreaming as one, dreaming together.

Their journey was a journey made of tears of joy, anger, frustration and sadness but also, a jubilant journey celebrating their resilience and their new-found capacity for expressing and addressing pressing personal and societal issues. So they cried and they laughed as they changed, challenging their own views and those of the world around them.

For the first time ever, most of them experienced Art as an alternative means to address the contradictions of their lives, an opportunity to create fertile ground for an empowered inclusion amongst the people of Galkayo.

How can this group of young agents-for-change

Farshaxanka sida jidka loo yaqaan

Bishii Oktoobar 2018 illaa Janaayo 2019, Gaalkacayo, shan iyo toban maalmood, lix iyo toban dhallinyaro ah, laga bilaabo woqooyiga iyo koonfurta magaalada, dhammaantoodna way kala duwan yihiin, waxay la kulmeen, midba furan yihiin, rinjeynta, burushyada, waxay sameeyeen Kharidadahaan jirka, sawir gacmeedyada, waxay isticmaaleen kamarado, sawirro, sawiradooda, dareenkooda iyo dareenkooda, codadka laga helay farriimaha lagu soo gudbiyey Gaalkacayo, waxay isu muujiyeyna naftooda, waxay la wadaageen khibradooda gudaha gudaha iyo kuwa wadajirka ah.

Waxay soo baxeen, waxay muujiyeen, waxay u muuqaan, waxay wada riyoodeen.

Tani waxay aheyd safar laga sameeyey ilmo farxad leh, cadho, niyadjab, murugo, laakiin ugu sareysa dhamaanteed, safar lagu dabaaldegayo adkaysigooda iyo awooddooda ah inay wax ka qabtaan arimaha shakhsiga iyo bulshada. Sidaas daraaddeed way qayliyeen, wayna qosleen, way is beddeleen ... waxay ku doodeen aragtidooda iyo adduunka ku wareegsan.

Farshaxanka loo isticmaalo markii ugu horeysay ee looqoog talagalay inay noqoto mid ka duwan sidii
make sense of their own lives and roles in the very complex world of this city they share and call Galkayo? How do they balance and comprehend the many contradictions that burden them as young Somalis between history and peace, unemployment and education, gender and prejudices, cultural heritage and clannism, corruption and civic responsibility, even well-being and trauma?

One answer that comes to mind is a sense of “belonging”. Art can be transformative in its various forms because it enables us to move from a singular place for self-expression to new spaces of awareness and response to social conditions and social relations.

looga hortagi lahaa noloshooda isla markaana abuuri lahaa dhul bacrimin ah oo loogu talagalay in lagu daro dadka ku nool Galkacyo.

Siinde koox koox dhalinyarada ah oo isbeddel ku sameyn karta Galkacayo waxay dareemayaan noloshooda iyo doorarkooda aдуунankan adag ee lagu magacaabo Galkayo? Siinde loo qaadaa iskahorimaadyada badan ee dhalinyarada Soomaalida ah ee udhexeeya taariikhda iyo nabadda, shaqa la’aanta iyo waxbarashada, jinsiga iyo caqliga, dhaxalka dhaqanka iyo qaba’a’ilka, musuqmaasuqa iyo mas’uuliyaadda madaniga ah ama fayoobaanta iyo naxdinta, oo kaliya si aad u magacowdo dhawr qof?

Waxaa suurtogal ah in hal jawaab oo maskaxdayda
The Body Mapping and Photo Voice project engaged these young participants in ways that were emotional and sensory, as well as intellectually and cognitively involving.

For the duration of the project, Art offered the group the potential to address what is subtle yet significant about the world that participants might not have noticed had they not known or learned how to look around them and express it visually. The strong and powerful paintings, their individual stories, the photographs they took, all expressed important issues affecting young people that may well generate a sense of empathy and lay the groundwork for new approaches and possible actions, inside and outside. The shared experience opened up new vistas and perspectives that took the young participants beyond some of the old habits of mind they had inherited from collective reactions which had contributed to prevailing prejudices and stereotypes within their communities. Art can be used to overcome some of our seemingly built-in ‘negative’ habits and tendencies.

Art in Galkayo, as evidenced by this innovative project, offers new ways to perceive and interpret the world around us that might otherwise go unseen. In some ways, these amount to acts of resistance, challenging the accepted, offering the potential to break down existing barriers of prejudice such as clan membership, marginalization, social class, and gender inequality.

Within these pages, the reader is invited to share this attempt to assemble a selection of lives, offering insights into the little treasures that shape and inform the heritage of being Somali and that resonate emotionally, historically and culturally.

Qaabka Mashiinka iyo Voice Photo ayaa ku hawlan siyaabaha dareenka, dareenka, iyo qaabka, iyo weliba garashada iyo garashada.

Inta lagu jiro maalmahaas dhan, farshaxan ayaa loo soo bandhigay kooxdan suurtagalinmada inay wax ka qabato wax soo gaabiya laakiin muhiim u ah adduunka oo aan laga yaabo in aan la ogaan haddii mid aana ogayn sida loo fiiriyo una muujiiyo aragga. Sawirada xooggan oo awood leh, sheekooyinka iyo sawirada sawirada loo isticmaalo si loo muujiiyo arimaha muhiimka ah ee saameynaya dhalinyarada waxay abuuri karaan nooca naxariis-darrada ah ee bixiya habab cusub oo loogu talagalay waxqabadyada suurtagalka ah gudaha iyo dibadda. Waxay fureen aragiyo cusub oo ah in qaar ka mid ah caafoooyinkii hore ee maskaxdu ay dhaaxlaan falcelin wadajir ah oo keenaya caqli-galin iyo fikrado. Farshaxanka waxaa loo isticmaali karaa in lagu xukumo qaar ka mid ah falcelinta ‘negative’.

Tani waa farshaxanka Gaalkacayo kuwaas oo bixiya siyabo cusub oo loo aqoonsado oo lagu tarjumo adduunka oo kale haddii aan la aqoon. Waa falcelino, waxay leeyihiin awood ay ku jajabiyaan qaar ka mid ah caqabadaha jira ama nacaybka oo ay ka mid yihiin qabillada, diidmada, heerka bulshada, iyo sinnaanta jinsiga.

Buugan, waxaa laguugee casuumayaa inaad la
in the heart and body of each one of us. Here the project participants reveal themselves and their knowledge in ways where the said and the unsaid coalesce beautifully as we learn to think with the senses and feel with the mind.

Xavier Verhoest,
Art2Be Facilitator between Galkayo and Nairobi, 2019
Ahmed

Change the Gun into a Pen, Tribes into One Nation, lack of a Job into a Job and Migrants into Citizens

My name is Ahmed Mohamed Abdullahi.

I was born in Kismayo, southern Somalia, and grew up in Mudug-Galkayo. I am 28 years old. I have completed both primary and secondary education here and university level in Mogadishu.

In Galkayo, I have met several challenges including the lack of job opportunities and the tensions between the communities. Though I personally went to several places like Kismayo, Galkayo and Mogadishu, I never managed to find a job. This made me sad since I found it difficult to progress.

That is what made me decide to migrate. I remember, we were a number of youths from Galkayo but after a while we got captured in Ku-badal Qoriga Qalinka, Qabaa’ilka Qaran Mida, Shaqo la’aanta Shaqo, Shaqo Abuur, Muhaajirnimadana Muwaadinimo’


Gaalkacyo waxaan kula kulmay caqabado dhawr ah oo ay ka mid yihiin la’aanta fursado shaqo iyo xiisad ka dhex jirta bulshada. In kastoo aan si shakhsiyan ah u tagay meelo kala duwan sida Kismaayo, Gaalkacyo iyo Muqdishu marnaba ma helin shaqo. Taasina waxay I gelisay dareen murugo leh waxaana igu adkaatay inaan horumar sameeyo.
Wajaale and were taken to prison. Later, I was released and repatriated to Somalia.

Today, I am back in Galkayo. It is a city I know a lot about. I can describe its history and its people. Many people say Galkayo is divided into two or three parts, but to me Galkayo is one. During my studies, Galkayo used to be known for education and for its people who promoted and talked about peace. People used to come together. They used to embrace each other regardless of where they were coming from. People used to respect each other. Children from two sides used to study and play together.

But nowadays, I am not sure if such opportunities still exist. The youths who were in agreement in the past have left the town while others who have arrived do not participate in the same way. Recently, there has been much friction. On the matter of politics in Galkayo, there used to be a way of sorting problems and disputes within the community. Clan elders, religious leaders and scholars used to deal with these issues and find resolutions. When the elders and religious leaders left the region and some died, it was not the same anymore.

Fortunately, some people thought of forming the Galkayo joint peace committee which handles security issues in the city.

As youths, we are trying. Both communities meet and engage to find another way, especially at the level of the universities where the youth networks are stronger.

Being a youth in Somalia is not easy because you learn the lessons of our issues in a hard way at times. There was this story about a friend of mine who did an exam for a potential job with an NGO. He passed the first exam and was registered for the second one. When the time came for the oral exams, he and his

Taasi waxay igu keliftay inaan tahriibo. Waa xasuustaa, waxaanu ahayn dhawr dhaliyaro ah oo tahriibayaal ah oo ka yimid Gaalkacayo waxaa nalagu qabtay magaalada Wajaale waxaana naloo qaataay dhanka xabsiga, muddo ka dib waa la I sii daaday waaanaan dib ugu guryo noqday Somalia.

Maanta, waxaan ku soo laabtay Gaalkacayo. Waa magaaladda aan wax badan ka ogahay, waxaa qeesi karaa taariikhdeeda iyo dadkeeda. Dad badan ayaa sheega in Gaalkacayo ay u kala qaybsan tahay laba ama sadex qaybood, laakiin aniga aragtidayda Galkacayo waa mid. Xiligaan aan ku guda jiray waxbarashadayda, Gaalkacayo waxa loo yaqaanay goob waxbarasho oo dadkeeda ay dhiirigeliyaan Ka hadalka nabadda. Magaaladan dadku way isku iman jireen si wada jira, way is qaabili jireen si kalgacal ku jiro iyagoo aan isku soo dhaawaynayn iyo cida ay yihiin. Dadku way is tixgelin jireen midba midka kale, caruurta labada dhinac wax bay wada baran jireen waanay wada ciyaari jireen.

Laakiin maalmahan, ma hubo haddii fursadahaasi wali jiraan. Dhalliniyaradii heshiisiga ahaa ayaa waxay ka baxeen magaalada halka kuwa kale ee iyaga soo bedelayna aanay ka qayb qaadanayn heshiisiga iyo isku soo dhaawaanshaha. Waxaa jiray is afgaranwaan badan intii la soo dhaafay.

Marka laga hadlayo xaaladda siyaasadeed ee Gaalkacayo, waxaa jiray habab loo xaliyo dhibaatooyinka iyo khilaafka bulshada dhexdeeda, waxaa jirey odayaasha beełaha, hogggaamiyeyasha diinta iyo aqoon yahanno kuwaas oo loo adeegsan jiray inay wax ka qabtaan arrimaha oo ay gaadhaan go’aano. Markii odayaasha iyo hogggaamiyeyasha diintu ay ka baxeen gobolka, qaarkooda dhinteent, wax waliba sidoodii may sii ahaanin. Dadka qaarkiiis waxay nasiib wanaag aasaaseen guddiiyo nabadgelyo oo isku dhaf ah kuwaas oo Gaalkacayo yeelatay.
friend found that their names were not on the wall. They had been removed because they did not belong to one clan or another. They really tried to do the exam but eventually they were threatened and gave up. They had no other choice -- there was no law to protect them or an effective governmental body to complain to.

Sometimes, the youth here make use of opportunities by getting involved in politics. Some are now district commissioners, Members of Parliaments or hold other posts. They are in politics but the concepts and vision for our society are missing because of the system. Elders still hinder youth participation in politics right now because I believe the elders are still pushing their own agenda. We need the youth to be more Kuwaas oo gacan ka geystay arrimaha ammaanka ee magaalada.

Dhalinyar ahaan waxaan isku dayeynaa, labada bulshana ka wada kulmayaan, sidii ay u muujin lahaayeena qaab kale oo wax loo xaliyo. Waxaa si gaar ah loo bilaabay shabakado heer jaamacadeed maadaama dhalinyarta jaamacaduuhu aad u awood badan yiihii.

Inaad dhallinyarnimo ku noolaato Soomaaliya ma fududa, sababtoo ah waxaad baraneyssa casharro adag oo ku saabsan arrimaha qaarkood. Waxaa jirtay sheekadan oo ku saabsan saaxibkey oo imtixaan u galay shaqo ay u baahnaayeen NGO wuxuu ka gudbay imtixaankii koowaad isla markaana loo diiwaan geliyey kan labaad.
vigorous and to participate as much as they can., Young and old must provide equal opportunities for all and give everyone the same access to those opportunities.

On my Body Map

This body mapping workshop was really interesting. I made my artwork with a young woman. We decided to work together. She is from the North and I am from the South of Galkayo. During the process, each of us talked and communicated our views and opinions through these drawings.

The artwork shows what revolves in our lives. We are in Galkayo, the brown colour shows the sand, the land of Galkayo. The red line painted is called the green line and stands for what Galkayo is known and remembered for: that is the divide that physically exists even if today people can cross from one side to the other. That dividing line is in the mind as well. Today may be better than before but people can still have different opinions or perspectives about the green line and yet the bottom line is that the line is there.

In the artwork, my sister used the colour white which represents peace. Why? Because we must remember peace and should work towards getting rid of the green line.

In this artwork, I have shown and expressed peace building which brought me happiness. I feel love when I see the flag is up. This Body Map includes the two parties of people integrated in one work. This is about unity, physically and mentally.

The sad part is seeing young people going for...
Gaalkacayo, midabka cawan wuxuu muujinayaan ciid, dhulka Galkacayo. Xirmooyinka casaanka ah ee la rinjiyeeyey waxaa loo yaqaannaa khadka cagaaran waxaan cawlan waa taagaan yiih waxa Waxaay la taageeray waa la xasuustay: waa kala qaaybaha cagaaran waxa ay u taagan yihiin waxa Galkayo lagu yagaan iyo waana la xasuustay: waa kala qaaybaha cagaaran. Wuxuu soo bandhigay waxaad u muujinayaa hubiga nabadgelyada, laakiin wuxuu qaatay mid ka mid ah, nasib wanaag, waa in aan xasuusado yahay ayaa ah in arrintaasi tahay mid jirta.

Farshaxankayga, waa ka soo bandhigay oo muujiyay dhismaha nabad qaar oo ii keenay farxad. Wuxuu horeysay, in arrintaasi tahay mid jirta. Weyeedaa marka la kala hadliyey, laakiin wuxuu ka kooban tahay labada dhinac ee dadka isku dhafan hal shaqona wada haya. Farshaxankayga waxa uu leeyahay mid ka mid ah, nasib wanaag, weli waan noolahay.

Hadii aan awood u heli lahaa, waan ka tirtiri lahaa waddanka nidaamka 4.5 waxaana ka dhigi lahaa Soomaaliya mid ah oo ay Somaliland-ka la jirto. Anigu waxaana la dagaalamso waa dagaal sokeeye, musuqmaasuuq, tahiriibka dhaliyarahay, danta guud ayaan ka horeysiiina lahaa danahayga gaarka ah - horumarinta wadanka: Ku-badal
Qoriga Qalinka, Qabaa’ilka Qaran Mida, Shaqo la’aanta Shaqo, Shaqo Abuur, Muhaajirmadana Muwaadinimo’.

Waxaan rabaa in aan dadka iyo dhallinyarada u sheego in ay joojiyaan dhammaan falalka kadhanka ah nabadda ayna dejiyaa guddi nabadeed oo ay bilaabaan ololayaal wacyigelin ah oo ku saabsan nabadda iyo midnimada si loo horumariyo isdhexgalka qof walba.

Waxaan u baahanahay guddiyo nabadgelyo oo wada xaaqoon kara. Waxaan ubaahanahay dhalinyaro u horseed kara inay hogaamin karaan, sidoo kale waxaan u baahanahay kalsooni, cadaalad iyo sinaan.

“To build a city is a slow process and is not easy. To destroy it takes a minute. Why do we fight for destruction?”

“In la dhiso magaalo waa hab tartiib tartiib ah oo ma fududa. Si loo burburiyo waxyay qaadataa dagiigad. Maxaynu ugu dagaalamaynaa burburka?”

UNFPA Somalia, 2019
“This is a sign that can be broken. We can live together without fear and believe that our Galkayo can be united. The city belongs to you and me”

“Tani waa calaamad la jabin karo. Waxaan wada noolaan karna iyo yaga oo aan cabsanayn, iyo in Gaalkacyo ay midoobi karto. Magaaladu waa adiga iyo aniga”
Intisar

I was born in Mogadishu and when I was one, we migrated to Galkayo. Today, I’m studying at the Faculty of Social Science and Economics.

I would like to be a social worker to support and help my community through difficult times and ensure that vulnerable people including children, adults and old people are safeguarded from harm.

I want people to feel better about themselves.

I’m very happy and proud to be in Galkayo. People here are different. Galmudug people are critical thinkers, intelligent, and they speak the original Somali language. This part of Somalia has seen the origin of all Somali traditional form. I would like to spend the rest of my life here.

Unfortunately, Galkayo is divided into two, the only divided city in Somalia. No other place in Somalia has two administrations and that is because of the locals who haven’t reached a common political understanding. The people don’t agree on matters of clans and politics.

I was shocked when I witnessed the civil war taking place. It really breaks my heart to see a city as small as Galkayo being divided. It hurts me seeing the fighting that occasionally breaks out and the young lives that are lost. The people fighting and killing each other are brothers or relatives. They are all Somalis. This should not be going on. We still have this border with checkpoints. There are times we cannot cross when the tension is high because of the border separating North from South.

Somalis have a common culture, religion and colour. They also have individual differences in

Anigu waxaan ku dhashay Muqdisho markii aan ahaa xAL SANO, waxaan u guurey Gaalkacyo. Maanta, waxaan ka baranayaa cilmiga sayniska bulshada iyo dhaqaalaha.

Waxaan jeclaan laahaa in aan noqdo shaqaale bulsho si aan u caawiyso oo aan u caawiyso bulshadeydha waqtiiyo adag oo aan hubino in dadka nugul ay ku jiraan carruurta, dadka waaweyn iyo dadka waayeelka ah laga ilaaliyo dhibaatada.

Waxaan rabaa in dadku dareemaan inay si fiican u dareemaan naftooda.


Nasib darro, Gaalkacayo waxay u kala qaybsantaa laba, waa magaalo kaliya oo Soomaali ah oo kala qaybsan, ma jirto meel kale oo Soomaaliya ka mid ah oo leh laba maamul oo taasina waa sababta oo ah dadka aan helin faham siyaasadeed oo caadi ah. Dadku ma aqabalaan arimaha qabaa’ila iyo siyaasadda.

Mid ka mid ah xilliga naxdinta leh ayaa ah markii aan arko dagaalka sokeeye ee socda. Waxay runtii jebisay qalbigayga si ay u aragto magaalada yar yar sida Galkacayo loo kala qaybiyo, waxay igu dhibeysaas in aan arko dagaalka oo mararka qaar jebiya iyo nolosha dhalinjarada lumin. Dadka la diriraya iyo dilka waa walaalo ama qaraabo. Dhammaantood waa Soomaali, waana inaan uucis in iyo
Body Map & Photo voice in Galkayo

UNFPA Somalia, 2019
terms of profession and/or education. What I know maybe someone else does not know.

I am educated and I am familiar with diversity yet I can discriminate because of a person’s belongings or because someone is literate or illiterate. To discriminate is to be ignorant. I have seen discrimination over a long time because we were brought up being told not to cross over to the other side. In this way, discrimination has been here and it affects me.

Today, the city is starting to open up. The youth
from both sides of the city are interacting and, compared to the past, the situation in Galkayo has radically improved. There are fewer tensions with communities. Relations between students, police and youths in general have improved.

I believe that women should participate in politics. Yet society, especially the traditional elders in Puntland, engages in politics solely to promote its own political agenda and interests and ignores the young people. The elders show injustice by denying our rights. They will say “you are a woman”. They think women are less than a man even when they are educated and competent and so they don’t give them the same chances.

Gender equality is important yet most Somali people do not understand that. When you hear about gender equality what comes to people’s minds is the need to increase women’s rights, issues of GBV, rape, early marriage. But what they don’t understand is that these are rights every individual should have. It is about basic human rights.

One of the happiest days of my life was when I first started school as a child. To this day, I am still studying and that makes me very happy. I am now in the final stages of my university education and I am currently writing my thesis on child labour and its effects on Somalia’s society.

When I first started these paintings I didn’t think much of it. When people start new things they always doubt themselves, especially when they are challenging and challenged. As I kept going, I got better and better and now I see the value in what I am doing. Initially, I did not understand about paintings but now it is an eye-opener for me. I

Waxaan aaminsanahay in haweenku ay ka qaybqaataan siyaasadda, laakiin bulshada gaar ahaan odayaasha dhaqanka ee Puntland waxay ka qayb qaataan siyaasadda oo kaliya waxay soo gudbinayaan ajendahooda siyaasadeed ee iyaaga oo aan ku farxin dhallinyarada. Odayaashu waxay muujiyaha caddaalad darro iyagoo diidayaa xuquqdeena. Waxay ku sheegi doonaan inaad tahay haweeney, waxay u maleynayaan in haweenku ka yar yihiin nin xataa xitaa marka ay wax barteer iyo karli leh sidaa daraadeed ma siinayo fursad isku mid ah.

Sinnaanta ragga waa mid muhiim ah, dadka badankooduna ma fahmi karaan. Markaad maqasho sinnaanta jinsiga ah waxa dadka maskaxda ku haa waxa weeye in la kordhiyo xuquuqda haweenka, arimaha GBV, kuwsiga, guurka hore, laakiin waxa ayan fahamsanayn in kuwani ay yiihiin xuquuqda qof kasta oo ay tahay inuu helo. Waxay ku saabsan tahay xuquuqda aasaasiga ah ee aadanaha.

Mid ka mid ah maalmaha ugu farxada badan ee
used to see images and drawings on the wall but did not understand their power to convey strong messages. I now want to keep on going with these paintings, to show them more widely to people and, hopefully, to start putting them on walls.

I am proud of my culture and our flag. I am working towards a better Somalia.
“Infrastructural work is happening. This new road shows that we are building a better Galkayo today than before”

‘Shaqooyinka laydhku waa ay dhacayaan. Wadadan cusub waxay muujinaysaa in aan dhiseyno Galkacayo ka fiican sidii hore’

“This is the first petrol station of its kind in Galkayo. There is unprecedented investment in our city today. It makes me proud as a young woman to see this”

‘Waa saldhigga koowaad ee batroolka nooca Galkacyo. Waxaa jira maalgelin aan horay loo arag oo magaaladeena ah. Waxa aan ku faanayaa sidii gabadh dhallinyaro ah inay arkaan ’
"This is a free boarding school for orphans. It is funded privately and shows that people are giving back to the needy. As a young woman, generosity and empathy are some of the values I believe in."

‘Tani waa dugsi lacag la’aan ah oo loogu talagalay agoonta. Waxaa lagu maalgeliyaa si loo gooni ah waxayna muujineysaa in dadka ay dib u siinayaan dadka baahan. Sida gabadhi dhallinyaro ah, deeqsi iyo naxariis darro waa qaar ka mid ah qiimaha aan aaminsanahay

"Farming is good for our development. We need to diversify our economy and generate alternative means of income to prevent conflict as a result of fighting over resources"

‘Beerashada ayaa u wanaagsan horumarkeena. Waxaa u baahannahay inaan kalada duwanahay dhaqaalahaan, abuurayna habab kale oo dakhli ah si looga hortago khilaafka sababtuna tahay dagaalka lagula kaco khayraadka’
“This place is a Mental Health centre for women. More and bigger structures are needed to assist women in need”

Meeshan waa xarun caafimaad oo loogu talagalay haweenka. Dhismayaal badan iyo kuwo waaweyn ayaa loo baahan yahay si ay u caawiyaan haweenka u baahan”

“I love this photo. It shows a camel and the first camel ranch of Galkayo. It brings a lot of benefit to us and is part of our pride, culture and heritage.”

Waan jeclahay sawirkan. Waxay muujinaysaa geel iyo geedka geela ee ugu horreeya ee Galkacyo. Waxay keenaysaa wax badan oo faa’iido leh, waana qayb ka mid ah sharafkeena, dhaqanka iyo hidaha.
“At Kulan café, I am so happy. I can meet and shop at the same time. It is peaceful and has a beautiful terrace. I feel good to be in Galkayo.”

“Kulan cafan, aad ayaan u faraxsanahay. Waan la kulmi karaa oo aan dukaanka u qaban karaa isla waqti isku mid ah. Waa mid nabad ah oo leh terasto qurux badan. Waxaan dareemayaa wanaag wanaagsan inaan ku jiro Galkayo.”

“The University of East Africa Galkayo campus is located outside the city. As a University student, it makes me happy to study in a serene enviroment. There I can develop to the best of my capacity.”


“The mothers are working in the sun daily to provide for their kids and ensure development and a regular life.”

“Hooyooyinkaas waxay qoraxda u fadhliyaan siday u dadkooda u gaarsiin lahaayeey in lahaayeen horumar iyo nolol badhaadha ah.”

“Children have a right to an education, but their parents are not financially able to provide it.”

“Waxay xaq u leeyihiin in ay waxbarasho helaan laakiin waalidkood uma awoodo.”
“Our land is very rich. We can be self-sustainable. There is enough for everyone. Our culture is just as rich.”

Dhulkeenu waa barwaago, dalagiius waanagu filanyahay dhaqankana hodan baan ka nahay.

“Children in education have to be valued, taken care of and supported. They are the future generations.”

Caruurta wax baranaysa waa in la xurmeeyo laga taxadaro waayo waa mustaqbalkii bari.
“The stadium is where the youth come together to play and interact. It is a place for communication, and enhances youth integration in a positive manner.”

Isbartiibadu waa meel dhali xarad ku ciyaarto ku kulanto hormar badan ka samaysta is dhexgalka bulshada.
Naima

“I love Peace”

My name is Naimo Abdishadi Abdikahdir. I am 20 years old.

As a young female living in Galkayo, the Body Mapping workshop enabled me to express my feelings and opinions. As a result, today I feel that I can play a greater role in the society.

For a long time, I wanted to translate the various challenges related to clannism, my culture, being a woman and living in the two states of Galkayo that led to civil war in 2015-2017. I live in a state of collision that brought us to destruction, an absence of education and rise in emigration, all at the same time that we dream of peace.

Today, there is a visible difference between the Galkayo of 2015 and the Galkayo of 2019. We went through a lot of struggle but you can also see the progress and hope.

When I close my eyes and think about Galkayo, I see the two parties coming together but I also realize that even if they agree, they can cancel the agreement anytime and start fighting again.

Those who disagree are the ignorant. They simply don’t understand the importance of peace.

People must hold hands. That is why I painted two hands together as a message to promote peace. There is a big difference between the pen and a

‘Waan jeclahay nabadda’

Magacya waa Naimo Abdishadi Abdikahdir. Waxaan jiraa 20 sano.

Sida qof dumar ah oo gabdho ah oo ku nool Gaalkacyo, aqoon-is-veydaarsiga jirku wuxuu awood u siiyey inay soo bandhigaan dareenadayda iyo fikradahayga. Maanta, waxaan dareemayaa in aana ka ciyaari karo kaalin ka weyn bulshada.

Muddo dheer, waxaan doonayay in aan turjumo caqabadaha la xidiidhada qabaalka, dhaqankayga, noqoshada dumar iyo ku noolaanshaha labada gobol ee Gaalkacyo kuwaas oo horseeday dagaalkii sokeeye ee 2015-2017. Waxaan ku noolahay xaalad isku dhac ah oo nagu hoggamisa burbur la’aanta waxbarashada la’aanta iyo socdaalka iyo waqti isku mid ah, waxaan ku riyooneynaa nabadda.


Marka aan indhahayga xiro oo aan ka fekero Gaalkacyo, waxaan arkayaa labada dhinac ee isku yimid oo xitaa haddii ay ogolaadaan, waxay jojin karaan marxalad kasta oo ay bilaabi karaan dagaal.
Body Map & Photo voice in Galkayo

UNFPA Somalia, 2019
The former is life and the latter is destruction. When people do not agree, it can lead to conflict in Galkayo. We need people to disarm, to put down the guns and replace them with books and with pens.

Clannism still plays a role, sometimes in a negative way. If you want to get a job in Galkayo, it matters where you are from. It is becoming increasingly hard to secure a job even with the right educational qualifications and skills. I have experienced it myself. When I was in high school, there was a job advertisement and I filled in all the necessary requirements only to later realize that the final selection was based on clan association and others got it. We must move away from this clan system.

We want togetherness from both sides -- for all of us because we have a common culture and a beautiful heritage. I am proud of who I am. The culture of Somalia is a rich amalgamation of traditions that were developed since ancient times. Thanks to various interactions, we became what we are today.

If today, I could change anything about Somali culture I would change negative cultural practices like female circumcision. As a young woman, I cannot help but think about girls who get circumcised. There are many complications especially when the girls grow up and start their period, and when they give birth. Female circumcisers and midwives need to be trained so that we can tackle these negative practices and better understand their effects.

Kuwa aan diidanahay waa kuwa jaahilka ah, ma fahmaan muhiimada nabadda.

Dadku waa inay qabtaan gacmahooda, labada gacmoodba labadaba si wada jir ah ayay u yiihiin farriin si kor loogu qaado nabadda. Waxaa jira farqi weyn oo u dheexeya qalinka iyo qoryaha, kan hore waa nolosha iyo kan dambe waa burbur. Marka dadku aysan isku raacin, waxay u horscheedikartaa colaadaha Galkacyo. Waxaa u baahannahay dadka inay hubka dhigaan oo ay saaraan qoryaha waxayna bedelaan kuwa leh buugaag iyo qalimaan.


Waxaa dooneynaa wadajir labada dhinacba, laga bilaabo iyo dhammaaanteenba sababtoo ah waxaan leenahay dhaqanka caadiga ah iyo dхаxalka quruxda badan. Waan ku faanayaa qofka ahaan aayay. Dhaqanka Soomaaliya waa isku-dhafid qani ah oo dhaqaameedyo laga soo bilaabo wakhtigii hore iyo is-dhexgalo kala duwan, waxaan noqdeey wixii aan maanta nahay.

Hadday maanta, wax isbeddel ku sameyn karaa dhaqanka Soomaalida waxaan badalii lahaa dhaqanka xun ee dhaqan ahaan sida gudniinka,
My Body Map

In my painting, the dark part represents the fighting and the civil war that has not only been experienced in Galkayo but also in the rest of Somalia. My painting shows the darkness that needs to be challenged and changed.

The blue represents the waters of Somalia because it is vital to use our natural resources.

On my artwork, I have drawn a lot: there are the bullets and the guns, the drugs, especially the use of Khat, that hinder Somali youth and that run hand-in-hand with unemployment. Youth unemployment is very high. So much so that it is a time bomb. Moreover, young people are wasting a lot of their time on social media.

Youth can and must play a bigger role. Our voices need to be heard. We are the majority.

 gabdhaha. Anigoo ah haweeney dhallinyaro ah, kama caawin karo inaan ka fikirin gabdhaha la guday. Waxaa jira dhibaatooyin badan gaar ahaan marka gabdhuhu koraan oo ay bilaabaan muddadoodii, iyo markay dhalayaan. Gudniinka gabdhaha iyo haweenka midkood waxay u baahan yiihiin inay tababar qaataan si aan wax uga qabanno dhaqanno xun oo aan si fiican u fahanno saameynta kuwan.

My Body Map (Somali)

Rinjigayga, qaybta mugdiga ah waxay ka dhigan tahay dagaalka iyo dagaallada sokeeye ee aaney kaliya khibrad u lahayn Galkaco, laakiin sidoo kale Soomaaliya inteeda kale. Waxay muujinaysaa mugdiga in loo baahan yahay in la cidihiidhiyo loona badalo.

Buluuga wuxuu matalaa biyaha Somaliya sababtoo ah waa muhiim in la isticmaalo khayraadka
In five years, I want to become a social worker, something I’m really excited about because I want to support my community through these difficult times. I would like to open life skills training for poor people and for women. I want to play a greater role in helping improve people’s lives.

My message is that Galkayo should be one town with one administration. We should all feel and follow the Somali saying that through peace a child is born while through war the same child can be killed and it is the latter that leads to our destruction.

I want Somalis to prosper and compete with the rest of the world. No country is better than another country. It is individuals who need to be better.
“Somalia does not belong to one person - it is for everyone. The death of Somalis will not end the existence of Somalia.”

Soomaali oo dhan baa ileh imalalaha reer ama dad gaar ah hadii ay dhintiiin dadkii idhisay ma aha inaan dad waayay soomaliiyeey.
“I am like the sun which rises and sets every day. I haven’t met people who make the most out of my abilities.”
Waxaan ahay qorax soo baxda oo hadana dhacda maalinkasta mahelin dad iga fa'idaysta wuxtarkayga.

“Somali people are one. We share the same looks and language. Despite being poor, my dream one day is to achieve higher education.”
Soomaali baan ahay dad isku midab iyo isku diiin ah, waxaan ahay faqiir waxaan tabayaa riwaydayda oo il rumowda waxaan tabayaa waxbarasho toloow ma heli doonaa maalin
“My neighbours fled due to war and unrest. It is because of this war that they now reside in displacement camps.”

Dadkii idaganaa waaga hayaameen colaadod dartood soomaali dagaal iyo darxumo mooye maleh dugaal.
“I am the fruit of this country. My country should make use of anyone that has something to offer.”

Waxaan ahay dhaaminkii wadanka waxaan tabayaa dadkayga oo iga faaidaysta soomaaliyeed kaca oo tashada.

“Gaalkacyo is growing -- don’t destroy it.”

Gaalkacyo way dhismaysaaye yaan la dumin
“This road is our division. It is blocked at the end and stops the people of Galkayo from being united. “I am here to open and enhance integration, I am a peace maker.”

‘Wadadani waa qaybteena. Waxaa la xiraa dhamaadka iyo jooginta dadka reer Gaalkacayo in ay midoobaan. Waxaan halkan u joogaa inaan furo oo aan kobicyo isdhexgalka, waxaan ahay nabadda’

“I am the fruit of this country. My country should make use of anyone that has something to offer.”

Waxaan ahay dhaaminkii wadanka waxaan tabayaa dadkayga oo iga faaidysta soomaaliyeed kaca oo tashada.
“If we had peace, this house would not have been destroyed. Instead, a family would have lived in it. But they had to flee and today they live as Internal Displaced Persons.”

‘Hadday nabadgelyo jirto, gurigaan ma dhicin. Qoys ayaa ku noolaan lahaa. Taabedelkeed, waa inay cararaan oo maanta ay ku noolaadaan sida Dadka Gudaha Ku Barokacay”

“Land is plentiful in Galkayo -- there is land enough for everybody. There is no need to fight because of land.”

Dhulku waa weyn yahay Galkacyo, waxaa jira dad badan oo dhul ah. Ma jirto bsahi loo qabo in lala dagaallamo sababtoo ah dhulka
‘Enough with our education affected by conflict all the time. Every child needs good and continuous education to grow and become a good citizen. Child education is a basic human right.”

‘Waxaa ku filan waxbarashadayada oo ay saameysey iskahorimaadka waqtiga oo dhan. Cunug kasta wuxuu u baahan yahay waxbarasho wanaagsan oo joogto ah si uu u koro kuna noqdo muwaaddin wanaagsan. Waxbarashada carruurtu waa xuquuq aasaasi ah oo bani’aadmimo ah ’
My name is Deko Hersi Hassan. I am 21 years of age, I have seven sisters and four brothers and I live with my parents.

I was born in Bosaso but I was brought up and have completed all my education here.

I love Galkayo and I don’t want to go anywhere else.

I am proud to be a Somali because I have two seas (the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea) and we have livestock which God gave us.

To be true with you, there are things I cannot be proud of. These include tribalism and being constantly reminded by others -- the media and the foreigners, and ourselves (our own people) -- that our country has suffered so much fighting and destruction. Of course it’s good to be reminded so that we can move forward but it makes me feel bad at times.

In the days we studied Body Mapping I learned a lesson I would never have thought of. It was very new. Whenever I used to see images made by artists, it never interested me. I never thought about why they do it. Now I have learned that images can talk a lot and that they can help me to express myself. To be honest, I am very happy to have drawn and painted this image. As you can see, it is very beautiful and it is me who made it.

I have drawn an image to show our traditional culture. It includes the “Gawa/Ameel,” a tool used to collect milk from the animals. It is full of fresh milk and if you have camels like me, you can understand how important it is.
I have also drawn a traditional spoon, not the modern one. That is because our tradition is important and we use the wood of a certain tree which makes the spoon so special.

I also painted the image of my flag because I like it. Whenever I see it, I feel admiration for my country and I feel proud to be part of a country with such a beautiful flag. The star shows the place where we come from. I am patriotic but I dislike the conflict and war in Somalia. I wish to be a part of this new coming generation that will change things and stop our internal fighting.
I am a qualified nurse and to show the importance of my work, I have drawn a needle because an injection can cure someone. I was lucky to study and my aim still is to become a doctor. Education for girls is very important and one day I hope to be able to construct beautiful schools where poorer students, especially those in the rural areas, will be educated.

In my artwork, I have used a lot of green because the green comes only when there is not war and it is beautiful for the eyes. It is my symbol of Peace. I have painted my eyes very big on my face because I love them a lot.

The two lines appearing in the centre of the image shows symbols of Peace and Reconciliation. As a young person, my role is to promote peace in a place where we, as Somalis, are not different but where politics have separated us. What is stopping us from coming together? We are all Somalis, a people that speak one language, have one culture and a common religion.

Let us build a common future for all of us.
“Farming is our national pride, and lemons are very healthy. Farmers should be motivated”

“Beerashada waa sharafkeena qaran, iyo liinta waa mid aad u caafimaad badan. Beeralayda waa in la dhiirrigeliyaa ’
"We have very good nurses and midwives but they are not always motivated because they are poorly paid. They deserve more recognition and better remuneration."

"Waxaan leenahay kalkaaliyaaal iyo umulisooyin aad u wanaagsan, lakiin mar waalba maaha kuwa la dhiirrigeliya sababtoo ah mushaar fican ma helaan. Waxay u palmaan aqoonsi dheeraad ah iyo mushahar wanaagsan."

"This is the maternity of the Mudug Regional Hospital in Galkayo. Unfortunately, like many others, it is not well equipped. We need more equipment and more training for staff."

"Tani waa xaruunta dhalmada ee Isbitaalka Gobolka Mudug ee Gaalkacyo. Nasiib darro, sida kuwa kale oo badan, ma qalabaysna. Waxaan u baahanahay qalab badan iyo tababaro dheeraad ah oo loogu talagalay shaqaalaha."

"Hospital cleaners do a lot of important work. They maintain the hygiene yet they remain invisible to us. We don’t pay attention to them and they are not well paid. We, as Somalis, lack respect towards lower economical classes. Why?"

"Nadafaad ooga-aalka cusbataallada waxay qabtaan shaqooyin badan oo muhiim ah. Waxay ilaaliiyaan nadafadda, waxayna noqdaan kuwa aan inno muuqan. Tix gelin ma siino mana ahan kuwa mushaar fican la siyoo. Anaga Soomaalidu, Waxaan nahay, kuwa ixtiraam darro uu mijiya dabaqadda dhaqaalaha hoose. Waa maxay sababta?"
“This picture is very simple but it means a lot to me. It shows that Galkayo is returning to normalcy and that there is more integration in the city.”

Sawirkaan waa mid aad u fudud, balse micro wayn ayuu ileyahay anigu. Wuxu muujinaya in Gaalkacayo aay ku soo laabaneyso caadi ahaan iyo in uu jiro isdhexgal badan.

‘Let us be proud of our culture. Traditional objects are beautiful and I am proud of our local products. I belong to Galkayo and to Somalia.’

“Aan ku faano dhaqankeena. Alaab dhaqameedu waa mid qurux badan, waxaanaan ku faanayaa alaabta maxaliga ah. Waxaan ka tirsanahay Gaalkacyo iyo Soomaaliya’

“We are a people that speak one language and share one culture and religion so why are we fighting? What is stopping us from coming together?”

Inagoo ah dad isku af, dhaqan iyo diin ah maxaa isku dagaalaynaa? Maxaa inoo diiday inaynu midoowno?
“I am the heart and soul of Galkacyo city. I am the busiest part of this city too. I make business easier for people and help them profit from this city.”

Anigu waxaan ahay bartamaha magaalada Galkacyo, waxaan ahay qaybta ugu mashquul badan ee magaaladan. Waxaan ganacsii u sahlaa dadka oo ka dhiga inay ka faa’iideystaan magaaladan.
Idil

I am Idil Muhidiin Abdi and I am twenty one years old. I was born in Diridawe, Ethiopia and moved to Gakayo in 1999 because my parents are from here. I am nurse and currently I am working in Galkayo main hospital.

I am proud to be Somali because our country has natural resource, livestock, fisheries, an ocean and a good climate. If you look at Somalia, it offers so many beautiful sites and agricultural farms. We need to be proud.

I don’t like our divisions among ourselves, I feel bad about it. It kills the patriotism and as a Somali we don’t get the dignity and respect from our neighbor countries like Kenya. The consequences of our behavior have been disastrous: our people fled by hundreds of thousands and after all these years, they still live as refugees.

I am the fifth born in my family. When I look at my Body Map, I can see a lot about me, my life, my community and my country. It reminds me a lot, my experiences and souvenirs that move me.

It helps me to appreciate some priorities, things we have and take for granted like having our parents besides us. You don’t feel when you are with them but we deeply feel when they are not there. This picture is a good way to be appreciative of what we have.

When I first joined school I remember vividly, I was happy that night and couldn’t sleep. I realized later that someone with no education is ignorant. I realize now why so many people turn to be casual laborers because of no education. I feel for them so deeply and always encourage young people and girls to be educated.

In my last year of University, there was that conflict between the North and the South of Galkayo, I was so afraid and depressed because I was in this dilemma whether I would finish University or not because of the conflict and the closure of University. I could see myself fleeing as a refugee and start all over again. These are painful memories and show the fragility of our lives here.

I always wish the country to be stable and that each of us can take individual responsibilities to make sure we are moving the right side. The body Mapping is a different tool that can unite our people, where we can engage youth to take part in different activities where they gain in self-confidence and become stronger. It can cater for everybody and help alleviate our challenges and sufferings.

The Somali tradition and culture must be supported and our talents revived. More people can take part in expressions like poems, songs, dance, painting and drama activities to bring people together.

On my artwork, there is broom made of sisal grass, used to sweep our compounds and another is the “Diil” used to preserve our drinking milk. We are more and more urbanized and I see the need to revive our culture and the tradition as a unifying tool. When shared in public, our picture can play an important role in the peace building especially if it is taken to schools, community centers and sports ground and brings people together and live peacefully because each of our work tells my story and the story of everybody as a young Somali. When you are part of this activity you learn and at the same time it keeps developing interest in the heart. It gives me courage and support.
Women are the pillar of our community, please let’s give them their rights.

Dumarku waa tiirka kaliya ee bulshada ku tiirsantahay iskuna haya fadlan sii xaqooda

Livestock is the backbone of our lives.

Xooluhu waa lafdhabarta nolosheena

Culture is the only links the society we have to protect Culture is what holds our community together, it is a must that we protect it.

Dhaqanku waa shayga kaliya ee bulshada isku haya marka wuxuu inaga mudan yhy inaan ilaashano
The mosque is the only place where the old, the young, the poor and the rich can come together. It symbolizes togetherness and should be protected at all costs.

Masaajidku waa meesha kaliya bulshada ku kulmaan dhalinyaro, waayeel, taajir iyo faqir wuxuu calaamad u yahay midnimo fadlan midnimadeena aan ilaashano.
Osman

My name is Osman Bashir Farah. I was born and grew up in Galkayo, a place where different people from different tribes live. Our main challenge is that we have two governments that are rivals.

I still remember vividly when I was in secondary school and the time when people were fleeing the violence from the city. Schools were closed. Today, besides my studies, I work in Galkayo and get my daily bread here. When there are tensions and fighting I feel scared for my life. As a breadwinner, I cannot afford losing my job and not being able to provide for my family.

Today, I am about to complete University and as a young educated man, my role is to create awareness on peace through youth initiative that promote safety and security. Galkayo belongs to everyone here, it is yours like it is mine and we should all work towards restoring peace and confidence between people.

As a young citizen, I feel at times discriminated as older people take decisions for me. As a citizen, it is challenging because I could not get a job just because I am young or because of our clan system that dictate some jobs to be assigned to individuals purely based on his tribe.

The other form of discrimination is between men and women. In the outside world, I think this isn’t much of an issue, but inside it cannot be hidden. This is evident when it comes to roles. Sometimes men are stronger than women so some jobs cannot be performed by women but nowadays the number of educated women are increasing, working and providing financial assistance to the families. Today, you see women who are more educated and get more opportunities than men.

Magacaygu waa Cusmaan Bashiir Faarax. Waxaan ku dhashay kuna soo koray Gaalkacyo, oo ah meel ay kunoolyihin dad kala duwan oo ka soo kala jeedaq qabiilo kaladuwan. Caqabadeena ugu weyn ee jirta ayaa ah waxaan leenahay labo dowladood oo xafiiltan ka dhexeyo.


Maanta, waxaan dhowaan ka qalin jabinayaa Jaamacadda. Anigoo ah nin dhalinyaro oo aqoon leh, doorkeeygu waa inaan abuurwo wacyi gelin nabaddeed aniggo adeegsanayo barnamikka hindisaha dhalinayradda oo lagu horumarinayo nabadgelyada iyo amniga. Gaalkcyo waxaa iska leeh qof waxa oo halkan jooga Sida aniga iyo adiga. Waa inaan dhamaanteen ka shaqeyeyna sidii loo soo celin lahaa nabadda iyo kalsonida ka dhexeyta dadka.

Anigoo ah muwadin dhalinyaro ah, waxaan dareemada mararka qaar in la i takooro markii dadka waaweyna ay go’aan ii gaarana. Muwaadin ahaan, way adag tahay inaanan shaqo helin sababtuna tahay aniga oo da’yar ama sababta oo ah nadaamkaaga qabiil ee sheegaya in shaqooyinka qaar loo qooneeyo shakhsiiyaad si ku saleysan qabiilkaa.

Nooca kale ee takoorku wuxuu u dhexeeya ragga
The kind of discrimination has more to do with gender roles as women are still expected to do household chores while men are there to provide financially for the household. Sometimes I see young girls given the household chores and the men are served by ladies, in terms of house work that is societal expectation.

Women are oppressed and still victims of a lot of sexual violence. A woman is raped and the issue is not prosecuted but rather settled by the clans as a way of solving the matter within the community. I have seen several cases where the perpetrator is not locked up and walk freely. This is very wrong and even the constitution goes against it, what brings the violence against women is lack of security and weak institution.


Nooca takoorku wuxuu in badan la xiriira doorka jinsiga, maadaama dumarku wali laga filayo inay qabtaan shaqooyinka guriga halka ragguna ay diyaar u yihiiin inay dhaqaale ku bixiyaan guriga. Mararka qaarkood waxaan arkaa gabdhaha yaryar oo loo meeleyo howlaha guriga, raggana waxaa u

68
My Body map

My experience of this workshop was contrasted. The first time I came here in the morning, I saw pots of paints with brushes, color pencils, papers on the floor. For us, as young Somalis educated, we don’t perform low level jobs and painting is one of them. I thought this is just passing time, having fun.

But slowly as I started painting, I understood that it was not about the quality of the painting but more about the process, the thinking and the message that my painting could portray.

In my work, I have shown that Somalia has developed compared to other countries that have a government. We have made big progresses. Despite our conflicts, we have kept on helping each other. For instance, a Somali man from the USA who has got a better income comes back to the country to assist the most vulnerable people. This represents the altruistic nature of Somalis and the importance of helping each other especially the poor in order to make this country fairer.

Another picture shows what we can be proud of being Somalis: we have a mosque, it is a place of worship, religion is what makes us similar. I believe if people have culture and religion, they will prosper. We worship and it brings values wherever we are. It is the support and love from one another. Though a few Somalis have an interest in killing people and create conflict, most of us are good people. We can develop ourselves as well as we can develop others.

There is as well the Somali flag, the green and the agriculture that Galkayo need, the students at adeego dumar, marka loo eego shaqada guriga oo ah filashadda bulshada.

Haweenka waa la dulmiyay welina in badan waa dhibanayaal xadgudubayadda galmada.

Haweeneyda waa la kufsadaa arrintan dacwad luguma so oogo, laakin waxaa xalliyaa qabaallada ayago hab racayo xalinta arrimaha bulshada dhexeeda. Waxaan soo arkay kiisaa dhowr ah oo dembiiluhu uusan xirneyn oo si xor ah u socda. Tani waa mid aad u qaldan oo xitaa dastuurku uu ka soo horjeedo, waxa keena xadgudubayadda ka dhanka ah haweenka waa nabadgelyo la’aan iyo hay’ad daciif ah

Gudbintayda Qaab Sawireedka Khariidadda Jidhka

Waaqo-aragnimadayda aqoon - is- weydaarisaan ayaa ahayd mid kala duwan. Markii ugu horreysay ee aan halkan imid aroortii, waxaan arkay dheriyo rinjiyo ah oo buraashyo leh, qalimo midab leh, waraanqo dhuulka yaal. Annaga ahaan, annagoo ah dhallinyaro Soomaaliyeed oo wax bartay, ma qabanno shaqooyin heer hoose ah isla markaana rinjiyeynta ayaa ka mid ah. Waxaan moodayay in tani ay tahay waqti isku dhaafin, oo la madadaalayo.

Laakiin si tartiib ah markii aam bilaabay rinjiyeynta, waxaan fahmay inaysan ahayn mid ku saabsan tayada sawirku laakiin ay tahay wax badan oo ku saabsan geeddi-socodka, fikirka iyo farriinta sawirkeygu muujin karo.

Shaqadayda, waxaan ku muujiyey in Soomaaliya ay horumartay marka la barbar dhigo waddamada
school, the flag of Puntland which is different from
the flag of Somalia.

Galkayo will only gain full peace when the rest
of Somalia finds full peace, and when Somalia
becomes peaceful. I am a Puntlander and belong to
Puntland state and there is my flag as well.

Somalia has several states and we are resident of
Puntland and we have a say as well in the whole
country. It shows that we are Somali and we can
move there and openly speak. We are not a pocket.
Thus this image shows that I have complain in
Puntland and when I was making this two flag
image, I was asked by the other participants of the
workshop why I have painted this flag because
it can show tribalism. To me, it is not an issue of
tribalism, I am using the image to show my voice
and my complaints if necessary. If you don’t do it
in a work of Art, you will never do it anywhere
else or in any other forms.

Somalia will be green again as green represents
prosperity and self-sufficiency as youth we are
the ones who will benefit from a peaceful Somalia
more than anything so I urge every Somali not to
practice any form of Discrimination and humiliate
others.

I want our community to benefit from the artistic
and expressive skills we have learnt here. By
showing and sharing this art, we can raise our
concerns and approach others in a soft and new
way.
goboleedyo waxaanan daganahay Puntland waa sidoo kale ku leenahay cod dalka oo dhan. Waxay muujineysaa inaan nahay Soomaali waxaana u socdaalna halkaas oo waxaans u hadlnaa si xornimo leh. Jeebna ma nihin. sidaas awgeed ayuu Sawirkaani wuxuu muujinayaan inaan ka dacwoonayay Puntland markii aan sameynayay labadan calan,

Waxa la weydiyay kaqeybgalayaasha kale ee aqoon isweydaarsiga sababta aan u sawirey calankaan maxaa yeelay waxay muujin kartaa qabyaalad.

Aniga ahaan, maahan arin qabyaalad ku socota, waxaana u isticmaalaya muuqaalka si aan u muujiyay codkayga iyo cabashadayda haddii loo baahdo. Haddii aadan kuso bandhigsha shaqada farshaxanka, weligaa kuma so bandhigi doontid meel kale ama qaab kale.

Soomaaliya waxay mar kale noqon doontaa mid cagaaran madaama cagaarkuu uu matalayo barwaaqo iyo isku fiinaasho. maadaama aan nahay dhalinyyada waxaana nahay kuwa faa iideysan doona Soomaaliya oo nabad ah in ka badan wuxkasta. sidaas darteed waxaan ku boorinayaa qofkasta oo Soomaali ah inusahan ku dhaqmin nooc kasta oo midab takoor ah isla markaana dadka kale u xaqirin.

Waxaan rabaa in bulshadeena ay ka faa iideystaan farshaxanka iyo gudbinta xirfadaha ee aan halkaan ku soo baranay. Markaan muujino oo wadaagno farshaxankan, waxaan kor u qaadi karnaamuhimadeena, oo waxaana ula socodsiin karna dafka kale hab jilicsan oo cusub.
How many mothers and daughters have to work on the streets of Galkayo to make end meet? I do not feel proud about the lack of support we are giving to the poor. Social justice starts with me by helping ‘Immisa hoooyeyin iyo gabdho ayaa ka shaqeyan wadooyinka galkacyo sii ay nolaal malmeekooda u radshaan?
Kuma faani karo taageero laanteena saboolka? Caddaaladda bulshada waxay ka bilaabataa aniga oo caawimaad fidiiya.

“This minaret is beautiful, I want to see more of these in Galkayo. Religion can unify us’
Sawiirka 1aad: ‘Minaaradan waa mid qurux badan, waxaan rabaa kuwa badan oo la mid ah inaan ka arko Galkacyo. Diintu waay ina midayn kartaa’
‘This girl wears the face veil when walking in the city because she is scared of being bullied by boys and men.’

Gabadhan wax xirataa indha shareerka markay socoto magaalada sababto ah waxay ka baqeyysaa inay ku dhibaateyaa wiilasha iyo ragga

‘This is the result of our battle, these are the scars of war.’

‘Tani waa natijada dagaalka, kuwani waa nabarradii dagaalka.’

UNFPA Somalia, 2019

Body Map & Photo voice in Galkayo