By Lori Larsen
On Monday, Oct. 1, the 20th annual Augustana Human Library event will be held at University of Alberta Augustana Campus. The kick-off event will feature Syrian refugee and speaker Tarek Nemr, who will be giving a talk entitled “A phone call away: My Syrian refugee journey.”

Tarek’s presentation will also include background information and discussion on the Syrian civil war and how difficult it was for him, a single young male, to enter Canada and share his emotional recollections of racism that he has experienced.

Nancy Goebel, head librarian at Augustana and human library coordinator, relates the impact Tarek’s story had and will continue to have on others. “I get frustrated with our culture, because people don’t realize what a privilege it is to be in a place you can trust,” explained Goebel.

Along with the human library kick-off event, Tarek will be speaking in a number of classes at Augustana, and will be offering a short presentation at the Camrose Public Library. He will also be taking part in a Luncheon and Learn at Augustana on Oct. 3 and will answer questions that members of the community can submit in advance, online.

For more information on the Augustana Human Library event, visit the website at news.augustana.ualberta.ca/2018/09/20th-augustana-human-library/.