

## **Rap band ready to send “The Message”**

**Launch of the new album by Fugees United, 1900, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June, at Oran Mor, Byres Road, Glasgow**

Rappers Fugees United are poised to make their mark in the Scottish music scene with the launch of their debut album “**The Message**”.

The Fugees are a new music collective that has emerged from the Glasgow Rap scene. They include young refugee and Scottish rappers who want to make their mark on the R&B and Hip Hop scene in Scotland. The rappers already have a growing following in and around Glasgow and also run the city’s first African nightclub **Afro Flava**.

Founding member “Mickey” says that the collective is about showing people in Scotland what young refugees and their Scottish friends can do:

*“Scotland is a very beautiful country. It has nice friendly people. It has made me feel safe and given me the hope to pursue every dream I have. It has also given me the chance to make new friends who are like family to me now, and a chance to start a multicultural young peoples project called “Fugees United”. Our main aim is to educate and change people’s negative thoughts of who seeks asylum and what it means to be a refugee”.*

More than 15 young musicians and singers have come together to form Fugees United.

Here are a few quick profiles

- **Mickey** 21 - Came here as an unaccompanied minor from war- torn Somalia, he now lives in Glasgow alone but has found a new family in **Fugees United**. AKA Ferrari, Mickey wants to be a role model for other young people who arrive alone in Glasgow.
- **Levis** 19 - Comes from Angola and raps in a hybrid of English and Portuguese> He is a big star on the underground scene, but still awaits his leave to remain in the UK, a constant worry that influences his lyrics.
- **Nikita** from Partick - Has the soulful voice of Alicia Keyes and the sass of Lauryn Hill, she sings about her life and is immortalised in the track 'Weegie Girl'.

A copy of the CDm is being given away with the Special Refugee Week edition of the Big Issue in Glasgow and Edinburgh.

For further information, please contact Louise Irwin, on 0775-7523160

**ENDS**

