YOUTH PARTICIPATION & VOLUNTEERING

A RESOURCE PRODUCED BY THE INNER EASTERN LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK
This resource outlines some of the youth participation and volunteering opportunities available to young people in and around Melbourne.

The opportunities included are within or adjacent to Port Phillip, Stonnington or Boroondara across a number of categories with interactive links for further information.
VOLUNTEER STATISTICS

* In the world of employment and job seeking, recruiters are overwhelmingly in favour of volunteering as a professional development tool

- 92% (of recruiters) believe volunteering expands an employee’s professional skill set
- 85% are willing to overlook resume pitfalls when an employee includes volunteering on a resume.
- 82% are more likely to choose a candidate with volunteering experience
- 80% believe volunteering is an effective way to boost leadership skills
- 73% believe people who volunteer are more successful

* Data taken from the 2016 Deloitte Volunteerism Survey, June 2017
CATEGORIES

Arts and Culture
Community
Environment
Food and Hospitality
Health
Media and Radio
Sport and Recreation
Youth (Other)
**Arts and Culture**

**Who:** Candlelight Productions  
**Where:** 36 Barton St, Hawthorn East  
**Volunteer info:** Candlelight Productions is a non-profit arts organisation that recruits volunteers throughout the year, producing major events every 3-4 months  
**Tasks:** General assistance, event planning and management, front of house staffing, ticketing, IT, backstage, lighting and sound support, videography, photography, marketing, social media support, set design and building, costume design and construction, makeup, hospitality, and business development  
**Minimum Age:** 15 (depending on maturity of volunteers). All volunteers under the age of 18 will require a permission form to be signed by a parent/guardian  
**Number of volunteers:** Candlelight Prod’s utilise around 100 volunteers each year  
**Contact:** info@candlelightproductions.com.au  
**Website:** www.candlelightproductions.com.au

**Who:** Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival  
**Where:** Royal Exhibition Building, 9 Nicholson St, Carlton. Plus various other official festival locations confirmed upon program launch  
**Volunteer info:** The Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival is Australia’s largest consumer fashion event staged annually in March, a celebration of Fashion, Arts and Ideas. Volunteer opportunities are based on previous experience, availability and an interview process (if required for specific roles). Applications are open from November each year, see website for details.  
**Tasks/Roles:** Event Assistants, Front of House, Ushers, Back of House Assistants, Runway Production Assistants and Customer Service Assistants  
**Minimum Age:** 18 (licensed venues)  
**Number of volunteers:** 150 – 200  
**Contact:** volunteers@mff.com.au  
**Website:** www.vamff.com.au
**Community**

**Who:** Australian Red Cross  
**Where:** Head Office - 155 Pelham Street, Carlton. Various other site locations  
**Volunteer info:** The Australian Red Cross is a leading humanitarian aid and community services charity in Australia. Opportunities are available all year round. There is also a range of identified volunteer roles for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Online application process through the link below  
**Tasks:** General, skilled, project and one off volunteer opportunities, self organised/community-led activities and programs  
**Minimum Age:** 15  
**Number of volunteers:** 200+ per month  
**Contact:** 1800 833 489  
**Website:** [www.redcross.org.au/volunteer](http://www.redcross.org.au/volunteer)

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**Who:** Cancer Council - Relay for Life  
**Where:** Various event locations around Victoria  
**Volunteer info:** Relay For Life brings communities together to celebrate cancer survivorship, remember loved ones lost and empower teams of families, friends and colleagues to raise money to fight back against cancer  
**Tasks:** Assisting for 3-4 hours on the day of the event by setting up, registering participants, handling merchandise, helping transport people around. Some recruitment and coordination duties available for the right person  
**Minimum Age:** 16  
**Number of volunteers:** Unlimited  
**Contact:** Cancer Council Victoria 1300 65 65 85 or email cancercouncil.relayforlife@cancervic.org.au  
**Vision Australia**

**Who:** Vision Australia  
**Where:** Head Office - 454 Glenferrie Rd, Kooyong. Various site and event locations  
**Volunteer info:** With over 3000 volunteers, Vision Australia work to create equal opportunities for people who are blind or have low vision to get an education, get a job and to be as independent as they choose. They have a variety of opportunities across the year  
**Tasks:** Volunteers can work across many areas such as: administration, client support, community advocacy and education, events, fundraising, library, recreation, radio, Seeing Eye Dogs and transport  
**Minimum Age:** 12  
**Number of volunteers:** Unlimited  
**Contact:** Mary Scott - volunteer@visionaustralia.org or phone: 1300 84 74 66  
**Website:** [www.visionaustralia.org/fundraising-and-volunteering/volunteer](http://www.visionaustralia.org/fundraising-and-volunteering/volunteer)

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**Life Saving Victoria**

**Who:** Life Saving Victoria  
**Where:** Various life saving club locations across Victoria  
**Participation info:** Interested volunteers should contact a life saving club to become a member. Volunteers partake in training opportunities to provide them the skills to patrol Victoria beaches and inland waterways. Life saving clubs provide a free service for the beach going public via thousands of volunteers who dedicate their time and energy to training, patrolling and volunteering. Life saving clubs patrol 57 Victorian beaches and inland waterways on weekends and public holidays, throughout peak summer period.  
**Roles include:** Beach patrol, radio communications, first aid, administrative support, rescue boat drivers, coaching, officiating, plus many more opportunities.  
**Minimum Age:** 13  
**Number of volunteers:** Dependant on the life saving club  
**Contact:** call 03 9676 6930 or email lifesavingoperations@lsv.com.au  
**Website:** [www.lsv.com.au](http://www.lsv.com.au)
Environment

**Who:** Australian Youth Climate Coalition
**Where:** Head Office - 5, 60 Leicester St, Carlton. Various locations for events
**Volunteer info:** The AYCC is a group of young people building a movement towards leading solutions to the climate crisis. Volunteer opportunities are available year round.
**Tasks:** Age 15+ Event and action organising, recruitment and outreach for campaigns and projects, online and offline communications
Age 18+ Switched on Schools mentors. Mentoring high school aged students, run campaigns and projects in their schools
**Minimum Age:** 15 (Maximum age 30)
**Number of volunteers:** No limit
**Contact:** For general volunteering and Switched on Schools, contact - Angie Judd
angie.judd@aycc.org.au
**Website:** www.aycc.org.au

**Who:** Clean Up Australia
**Where:** Various site locations which are listed on their website
**Volunteer info:** Clean up Australia run a number of events including; Clean up every day, Clean Up Australia Day, as well as events at businesses, schools and for youth. Sites are listed on the website for volunteers to search
**Tasks:** Protection of beaches, waterways, parks or any shared spaces by cleaning them up and removing litter
**Minimum Age:** No age limits
**Number of volunteers:** No limit per site

**Contact:** cleanup@cleanup.com.au
**Website:** www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au
Who: Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA)
Where: Regional Office - 120 Rosslyn Street, West Melbourne. Projects are located across Melbourne, but depart from the Head Office. Volunteers are returned to the office at the end of the day
Volunteer info: CVA is an Australian not-for-profit conservation organisation that attracts and coordinates volunteers for environmental restoration projects. Volunteers are required to dress to a certain safety standards – ie long sleeves, sturdy shoes. This is to ensure that everyone is safe at work sites
Tasks: Conservation projects can include planting, weed control, seed collection, fencing, and many other activities
Minimum Age: 15
Number of volunteers: 9 volunteers per site, with 1-2 sites per day
Contact: Call 9326 8250 or email melbourne@cva.org.au
Website: www.conservationvolunteers.com.au
Health and Wellbeing

**Who:** headspace Elsternwick - Youth Advisory Committee
**Where:** 319-321 Glenhuntly Rd, Elsternwick
**Participation info:** Opportunities to join the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) through an expression of interest from - [www.headspace.org.au/Elsternwick](http://www.headspace.org.au/Elsternwick)
**Tasks and roles:** Advocacy on youth mental health, working groups to develop activities, attendance at regular meetings participation in event organisation i.e.St Kilda Festival
**Minimum Age:** Currently 16-25. However, headspace also welcome interest from young people aged 12-15
**Number of Participants:** Dependent on vacancies

**Contact:** Call Sam Loy on 9076 7500 or email s.loy@alfred.org.au

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**Who:** St Johns Ambulance Australia Youth Program
**Participation info:** St John Youth Victoria engages young people between the ages of 12-18 years in a First Aid oriented youth program. An annual fee of $120 is payable, with reduced rates for siblings. The fee covers uniform, training and most activities. Additional costs apply for some optional activities, including camps and some social activities
**Tasks:** Youth members participate in regular training sessions, and are encouraged to attend public events with experienced adult members, including qualified health professionals to provide First Aid and assistance to the community
**Age:** 12 - 18

**Contact:** volunteer@stjohnvic.com.au
**Hospitality**

**Who:** Society Melbourne  
**Where:** Various locations across Melbourne including the CBD and Brunswick  
**Volunteer info:** Three different roles available. The Crêpes for Change Van is a hospitality role for volunteers with limited experience who are happy to travel and love attending exciting events (average one event per fortnight). home.one cafe prefers volunteers with some hospitality experience, located in Brunswick with weekly shifts. The Coffee Cart Changing Lives requires trained and experience baristas as volunteers, shifts are fortnightly in the Melbourne  
**Tasks:** Crêpes for Change = serving customers, making and serving delicious crêpes. home.one = serving customers, cleaning and general tasks, and assisting with food preparation. The Coffee Cart Changing Lives = running the coffee cart and training young people in our training  
**Minimum Age:** 16  
**Number of volunteers:** Subject to availability  
**Website:** [www.society.melbourne/volunteer](http://www.society.melbourne/volunteer)  
**Contact:** tenille@society.melbourne

**Who:** Lentil as Anything  
**Where:** 1/3 St Heliers St, Abbotsford, and 562-564 High St, Thornbury  
**Volunteer info:** Hosting an A La Carte Breakfast, Buffet Lunch and A La Carte Dinner across 365 days of the year, there is a wide scope of opportunities. Volunteer Information sessions are held every Tuesday and Sunday at 4 pm at the Abbotsford site. There is no need to book in, participants can just turn up on the day  
**Tasks:** General restaurant assistance, waiting tables, food preparation, event organisation, social media, urban gardening  
**Minimum Age:** 10  
**Number of volunteers:** Up to 20 per shift or 60 per day in Abbotsford, and up to 12 per shift and 25+ per day in Thornbury  
**Contact:** Coordinator on 0422 376 238 or email: volunteers@lentilasanything.com  
**Website:** [www.lentilasanything.com](http://www.lentilasanything.com)
Media and Radio

**Who:** SYN Media  
**Where:** 16 Cardigan Street, Carlton, VIC  
**Volunteer info:** Anyone 12-25 can make radio, TV, digital media or work behind the scenes at SYN. The first step is to attend a monthly SYN info session for new volunteers and fill out the RSVP form at the bottom of their website page, then complete their two day training course. No prior experience necessary  
**Tasks:** Creating media, hosting radio programs/podcasts, engaging in SYN’s professional development & mentorship programs. Crewing on film productions or editing content  
**Minimum Age:** 12  
**Number of volunteers:** Unlimited, as long as volunteers are keen  
**Contact:** pathways@syn.org.au  
**Website:** www.syn.org.au/getinvolved

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**Who:** Channel 31 - Melbourne and Geelong  
**Where:** Level 11, 277 William Street, Melbourne  
**Volunteer info:** Advertised via Facebook and the C31 website, volunteer roles can be hosted in the C31 office or off-site and hosted by independent production groups  
**Tasks:** All types of production roles on an ad-hoc basis, including but not limited to camera operation, video editing, floor management, vision switching, live broadcasting, graphic design, social media marketing and community management  
**Minimum Age:** 18 at the C31 office, no minimum at other sites  
**Number of volunteers:** Approximately 80 per year at C31, others are site dependent  
**Contact:** info@c31.org.au or www.facebook.com/groups/c31productionnoticeboard  
**Website:** www.c31.org.au
Who: Scouts Victoria
Where: Head Victorian Scout Centre - 152 Forster Road, Mt Waverley, 3149. Various clubs around Victoria
Participation info: Youth leadership roles working with Joey Scouts, (5 - 7), Cub Scouts (8 - 11), Scouts (11 - 14). Training is required and provided. Selection for volunteer role requires WWC, police check, references and interview.
Tasks: Assisting with running group activities, administration support, youth leadership, attending meetings
Minimum Age: 18
Number of volunteers: Open
Contact: call 1800 726 887 or email reception@scouts.victoria.com.au
Website: www.scoutsvictoria.com.au
Youth (Other)

**Who:** FReeZA Youth Committee

**Where:** City of Stonnington and Boroondara are among the 80 councils that have FReeZA committees

**Participation info:** FReeZA committees are groups of young people that organise events for other young people in their local communities, including live band gigs, dance parties and other cultural, recreational and artistic events. These are all drug, alcohol and smoke-free in supervised and safe environments

**Tasks:** As a committee member, young people come up with ideas, as well as organising and staging the events

**Age:** 12 - 25

**Number of volunteers:** Subject to availability

**Contact:** push@thepush.com.au

**Website:** www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/freeza

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**Who:** Oaktree

**Where:** 33 Lincoln Square S, Carlton

**Participation info:** Oaktree is Australia’s largest youth-run anti-poverty organisation. Volunteers must be under the age of 26 and must have or be willing to obtain a Working with Children Check. Positions generally come available as members leave. Oaktree require a minimum 3 month commitment

**Tasks/roles:** Fundraising, campaigning, finance, legal, administration, international engagement, marketing, project/event management, recruitment, human resources, and communications

**Age:** 16 - 27

**Number of Participants:** Numerous positions as and when they are available

**Contact:** volunteer@oaktree.org

**Website:** www.oaktree.org
**Who:** YMCA Youth Parliament  
**Where:** Residential camps are held at: YMCA Lake Dewar Lodge (bus provided from Melbourne CBD)  
**Participation info:** YMCA Victoria Youth Parliament is a program designed to give young Victorians a chance to be heard at the highest levels of State Government, on a wide range of issues relevant to young people’s lives. 20 teams of 6 participants receive training in public speaking and leadership at residential camps. Applications open at the start of each school year.  
**Tasks:** Each team researches issues that they are passionate about. From this research they develop a Bill, which they debate in Victorian Parliament over three days each July.  
**Age:** 16 - 25  
**Number of participants:** 20 teams of 6 participants  
**Contact:** Becc Brooker Youthparliament.vic@ymca.org.au  
**Website:** www.vicyouth.ymca.org.au/programs/youth-parliament.html

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**Who:** The Push  
**Where:** Based in Brunswick but offer volunteer opps across Victoria (State-wide)  
**Participation info:** The Push is a state-wide youth music organisation delivering a range of programs and events that are relevant and responsive to Victoria’s future music industry leaders and audiences. They are an advisory service to all Freeza committees.  
**Tasks/roles:** Run music Industry mentoring, masterclasses, workshops, employment pathways, internships and volunteering opportunities to participate at live music events in various roles. Positions on youth music advisory panels and event committees available. A limited number of work experience spots to secondary students every year  
**Age:** 12 + (some age restrictions apply to some roles)  
**Number of Participants:** Subject to Availability  
**Contact:** push@thepush.com.au  
**Website:** www.thepush.com.au
# Volunteer Resource Centres

## Volunteer Victoria

Are the state peak body for volunteering, focussing on advocacy, sector development and the promotion of volunteering.

(Melbourne area)

03 8327 8500

www.volunteeringvictoria.org.au

T (03) 8327 8500

info@volunteeringvictoria.org.au

## Boroondara Volunteer Resource Centre

Offer a range of free services to support both volunteers and community organisations seeking volunteers in Boroondara

(Camberwell, Hawthorn, Kew, Balwyn, Ashburton, Canterbury, Surrey hills)

03 9278 4450

www.boroondara.vic.gov.au

bvrc@boroondara.vic.gov.au

## Other Local Resource Centres

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Centre Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South East Volunteers Inc</td>
<td>Chadstone, Glen Waverley, Dandenong, Narre Warren, Oakleigh</td>
<td>03 9562 0414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Info Glen Eira</td>
<td>St Kilda, Bentleigh, Carnegie, Caulfield, Elsternwick, Dardenvale, Glenhuntly, Mckinnon, Ormond</td>
<td>03 9571 7644</td>
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This resource has been compiled by the IELLEN. Information is current as December 2018. For feedback or comments, contact the IELLEN at:

Ph (03) 9510 5444
iellen@iellen.org.au
www.iellen.org.au
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IELLEN
"Better futures for young people"