

Case study: Sharing stories of inclusion

Amelia – 45 Downstairs

Amelia Sloan is a passionate, aspiring actress in her mid-twenties, living in Melbourne. Her love for the arts inspired her to start volunteering at 45 Downstairs, a not-for-profit theatre and gallery space located in the heart of Melbourne.

45 Downstairs is a unique, multi-arts venue and cultural hub with a 20-year history of nurturing bold, independent artists.

The organisation champions experimental and thought-provoking art, aiming to make money *for* artists – not *from* them. Additionally, 45 Downstairs is committed to providing inclusive opportunities for people with disabilities who are interested in volunteering in the arts.

Amelia volunteers at 45 Downstairs every fortnight, greeting patrons at the door, handing out programs, and assisting them with the QR code system.

Recently, she earned her Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) certificate, enabling her to take on additional responsibilities working at the venue's bar.



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Reflecting on her experience, Amelia shares:

“I love volunteering at 45 Downstairs. Everyone is so nice and welcoming, and I always receive a big smile.”

“I love seeing the diversity in the performances, as it is so inspiring. Thanks to the inclusive, supportive team I have learnt and developed many new skills in my role at 45 Downstairs, which I hope will soon lead me to paid employment in the theatre and acting space.”



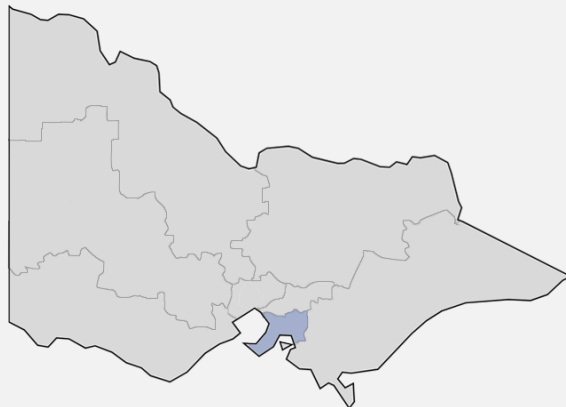
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<https://www.volunteeringvictoria.org.au/leading-volunteers/vma-2022-2026/>



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Volunteering Victoria acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea, and community. We pay our respect to Elders past and present.