

Local Volunteer Organization Opportunities: Culture and Arts Connection

Museum of Art and History (MAH)

Located in Downtown Santa Cruz The MAH brings people together around art and history through exhibitions, events and programs. Assist at special events, greet visitors as a gallery host or help with general office duties. Volunteer positions and orientations can be found online.

Teen Program: **Subjects to Change**: geared for teenagers who want to make a difference in Santa Cruz county by raising awareness of community issues through collaborative arts and creative experiences.

Contact: (831) 429-1964

Website: santacruzmah.org

Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History

The Museum of Natural History's mission is to connect people with nature and inspiring stewardship of the natural world. Volunteers work at the front desk, and also help with tide pool collections at local beaches and gardening projects at the museum. Complete an online application

Contact: volunteer@santacruzmuseum.org; 831-420-6115

Website: <http://www.santacruzmuseum.org/>

Santa Cruz Public Libraries

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries have a wide range of opportunities including literacy programs, working with children, library support positions (such as shelving books), and special projects. volunteer application available online

Contact: Roxanne Carlson 831-621-0800

Website: <http://www.santacruzpl.org/volunteer/>

Local Volunteer Organization Opportunities: Community Development

Boys and Girls Club- Live Oak and Santa Cruz

The Boys & Girls Club of Santa Cruz is a youth development organization dedicated to promoting the educational, vocational, social and character development of girls and boys. The Club offers structured after school programs, special interest classes and drop in opportunities for youths. Volunteer opportunities in Academic Tutoring, Sports and Recreation, Arts, Music and Dance, Programming and Robotics, Chess, and Woodworking, as well as needs for help in Administration, Events, and Facilities.

Contact: Program Director, Katee Freeman 831-423-3138 ext.30

Website: <http://boysandgirlsclub.info/>

Community Bridges (Puentes De La Comunidad)

Our mission is to strengthen our diverse community through innovative human services. Our family of ten vital programs, across 20 different sites, meets the needs of 27,000 local children, families, and seniors each year. While each program is remarkable on its own, brought together... we are unstoppable. Volunteer opportunities include delivering meals to Seniors, after school tutoring and office assistance. Fill out a volunteer application online.

Contact: 831-688-8840 or email: info@cbridges.org

Website: <https://communitybridges.org/volunteer/>

Diversity Center

At the Diversity Center, we have many opportunities for you to volunteer your time. As an incoming volunteer, we will listen to your interests, your experience, and will work to provide you with a volunteer position that fits. If you want to know where to start volunteering, we are always looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:

Contact: (831) 425-5422 volunteers@diversitycenter.org

Website: <http://www.diversitycenter.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

Local Volunteer Organization Opportunities: Community Development

Feeding the Spirit- Service Meals to the Homeless

Serve meals on the weekends at the Homeless Service Center. Volunteers help with set-up, serving hot meals, and clean-up.

Contact: feedingthespirits@gmail.com

Website: <https://feedingthespiritsc.wordpress.com/>

Grey Bears

Grey Bears improves the health and well being of seniors through food distribution, volunteerism and community participation. Looking for volunteers everyday and especially on weekends to cashier, price items, help with books, crafts and linens, or help in receiving. Fill out a volunteer application online.

Contact: Volunteer Coordinator, Michelle Ballou 831.479.1055 ext. 226

Website: <http://www.greybears.org>

SPCA- Santa Cruz Chapter

The Santa Cruz SPCA collaborates with other shelters and animal groups (municipal and private) to help rescue and rehabilitate cats and dogs, and find them loving homes. Our variety of programs are geared towards providing humane education and spay neuter. awareness to the public as well as assisting with resources to help animals stay in their homes.

Requirements: Must be at least 16 years old or have adult supervision; Attend an orientation, \$20 fee for volunteer materials (apron and nametag). Orientations 1st Monday of each month at 4pm, 1st Saturday of each month at 12pm

Contact: (831) 465-5000; Locations Main Shelter (Chanticleer) and Capitola Mall

Website: www.spcasc.org

Local Volunteer Organization Opportunities: Community Development

Santa Cruz Animal Shelter:

Helping to prepare the cats, dogs, and bunnies for their forever homes! Volunteers will work with an adult leader in feeding, exercising, playing, snuggling, brushing, and socializing adoptable pets.

Requirements: Must be at least 18 years old or have adult supervision; Attend an orientation and training. PRe-register for orientation online

Contact: Volunteer Coordinator, Erin Conway 831-454-7202

Website: <http://www.scanimalshelter.org>

Teen Kitchen Project

Teen Kitchen Project invites young people into the kitchen to learn to cook delicious and nutritious food. The meals prepared are delivered free of charge to families in crisis due to illness in Santa Cruz County.

Contact: angela@teenkitchenproject.org; Phone (831) 316-4540

Website: <http://www.teenkitchenproject.org/>

Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Shelter

Provides support and services to women, children and families so they have the opportunities and skills to thrive. There are many programs in which to volunteer your time. Walnut Avenue has four core programs and there are volunteer opportunities in all of our programs. ***If you are under the age of 18*** please stop by our office to pick up a parental consent form and instructions on the application process for minors. The volunteer positions open to minors are in our Early Childhood Education (ECE) program. ***Minors do not attend the general volunteer orientation.***

Contact: Phone (831) 426-3062

Website: www.wafwc.org

Local Volunteer Organization Opportunities: Community Development

YouthSERVE

YouthServe is an organization encouraging youth leadership and community involvement.. Dedicated to connecting youth, ages 11-17, with rewarding volunteer projects across the Santa Cruz County. Our aim is to connect local youth who have a passion to help those in need with meaningful opportunities to do so. Sign up online

Contact: 831-427-5070; volunteer@scvolunteercenter.org

Website: scvolunteercenter.org

Senior Tech Days:

Helping senior citizens navigate in the digital age and stay connected with their community through the use of their personal electronic devices(from emailing to iPads).Volunteers will be on hand to show seniors how to use social media and personal electronic devices or answer any other technology questions.

Contact: Desiree Farnal at 831-427-5070 ext. 118

Website: scvolunteercenter.org

Local Volunteer Organization Opportunities: Nature and Outdoors Connection

California Native Plant Society- Santa Cruz County Chapter

The Santa Cruz chapter of the California Native Plant Society helps restore native habitat in the parks and protected lands in Santa Cruz County! Their Habitat Restoration Team meets twice a month and always welcomes new volunteers.

Contact: Program Leader, Linda Brodman 831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net.

Chapter Website: www.cruzcnps.org

California State Parks- Natural Bridges

Volunteer Training takes place twice per year at Natural Bridges State Beach

Natural bridges is famous for its tidepools, monarch butterflies, and is located within the boundaries of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Volunteers lead public and school group tours, and educate park visitors about the natural inhabitants and habitats at the park. Docent training classes are held twice per year and focus on the marine environment in the Spring, and monarch butterfly preserve in the Fall.

Contact: (831)423-4609

Website: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28608

Cabrillo College Horticulture Center

The Horticulture Department sits on 11 beautiful view acres, overlooking the entire campus and the Monterey Bay region. The center provides students with an excellent horticultural educational facility and is a new focus for community activities. Volunteer positions include nursery production, the Spring Plant Sale and landscape maintenance.

Contact: (831) 477-3282

Website: <https://www.cabrillo.edu/academics/horticulture/getinvolved.html>

Local Volunteer Organization Opportunities: Nature and Outdoors Connection

Ecology Action

Assist people, businesses and communities make simple, yet profound changes that have big environmental impact. Ecology Action has various opportunities for volunteers, assisting program staff in our offices and at larger events throughout the year. Submit an online application to be contacted about upcoming opportunities.

Contact: 831-426-5925

Website: ecoact.org

Homeless Garden Project

Homeless Garden Project is looking for interested and energetic volunteers to help at their Farm near Natural Bridges State Beach.

Activities include: simple weeding, harvesting strawberries, CSA crops, lavender, and other flowers for drying, clearing out beds for new crops and helping out in our farm kitchen. The Homeless Garden Project provides job training, transitional employment, and services to people who are homeless.

Contact: Volunteer Coordinator: 831-426-3609 ext.10

Website: <http://www.homelessgardenproject.org/>

Save Our Shores

Join the team of beach and river clean-up volunteers! Clean-ups are held at various beaches and rivers around the Santa Cruz and Monterey County. Upcoming events are posted on the website

Contact: 831.462.5660

Website: saveourshores.org

Seymour Marine Discovery Center

The Seymour Marine Discovery Center is dedicated to educating people about the role scientific research plays in the understanding and conservation of the world's oceans. Teens 15 and older may volunteer as exhibit guides to assist visitors at the touch pools and show the aquarium and hall. Gain valuable public speaking skills, knowledge of marine science and connections with visitors.

Contact:(831) 459-3854

Website: seymourcenter.ucsc.edu

Shared Adventures

This organization gives volunteers the opportunity to assist individuals with disabilities enjoy outdoor recreational activities, such as hiking, beach volleyball, and swimming. Sign up online or email to find out about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

Contact: 831-459-7210

Website: <http://www.sharedadventures.org/>