

Youth Foundation 2019 Newsletter

Youth-led projects for West Heidelberg
and Parkville College

A big thanks to the young people, partners and supporters who make change in our communities happen. By the end of 2019, 73 young people will have developed 18 projects at the total value of \$23,700, creating opportunities for approximately 950 young people, their families and their communities. Additionally, we have made three short films sharing youth experience and voice and hosted events at Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre and Latrobe Uni. We are continuing to develop our pathways approach, providing mentoring, leadership and work experience opportunities for 16 – 24 year olds, as well as activities and focus groups to support young people's positive transition from primary to secondary school. Have a happy and safe holiday everyone!



This program is managed by
Banyule Community Health

Youth Foundation 3081

Star Struck Dance Club

Amy recognised that many children in 3081 want to dance but can't afford lessons. She has set up a regular dance activity at the health centre which targets quieter girls who might otherwise miss out.

"I look forward to this every week. I love it!"



Photo: Aspire Pictures

Himilo - Cultural Hoops

Members of the Himilo Youth Leadership Program set up a one day basketball event for 14 – 16 year olds which also raised money for further future training for this age group.



Photo: Aspire Pictures

"We had to organise the event - booking tutors, organising the training sessions, and food, advertising - everything. It was brilliant, 150 people, 9 teams, and everyone had a good time."

Pavilion School – walls and wear

Michaela has commissioned and worked with artist, *Common Dust* to brighten up the stairwells at Pavilion School.



"I talked to teachers, students and the artist, to get ideas together and design a brief which would celebrate the school's history and Indigenous Culture. This is my way of saying thankyou for the amazing support I have had from staff here."

Kaycee, Levi and Kacey have also raised grants to pay for graduation jumpers and jackets for their respective graduating classes.

"We can't afford jumpers or jackets for graduating and this is a way we can all feel proud and celebrate that we are completing high school – what an achievement for us all!"

NCAT - Literacy Hoops



"Our project dealt with bullying and loneliness. We buddied with Olympic Village Primary School kids, doing fun sport and reading activities. We also wrote, designed and published a short story about kids and bullying, which we left as a gift for each student. We hope they enjoyed the sessions as much as we did."

Young and Deadly – Aboriginal Youth Forum

A day of culture, art, dance and sport which brought local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people together to have fun, yarn and talk about what is important to them.

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead today. I'm looking forward to doing more events like this."



Melbourne Polytechnic – Fatties get Fit

A disengaged group of students identified that regular sport sessions would help them come to school, concentrate and get fit.

"We had 10 weekly activities where we tried out different activities, including boxing, gymnastics and dancier-size."

Youth Foundation Parkville College

Parkville College is a specialist Victorian Government School that provides education to students who are, or have been, detained in custody. Many of the students we work with have had limited and disrupted education and YF enables students to build on a personal learning passion or idea which the school wouldn't be able to provide otherwise.

Women's Business

Students at Parkville College across both the Parkville and Malmsbury sites participated in jewelry design and self-care workshops, finding out what it takes to run a business as a First Nations Woman.

"The earrings are amazing and we can't wait to show them off. Thanks again for the opportunity to learn new skills and for sharing your stories with us."



Bubble Soccer at Malmsbury Site

"With the help of our teachers, we ran 6 sessions across all the units. It got us out of the classroom, off the units and away from the Play Station too. We played together and tried something new. It was very active. We played against each other and the staff. A stress buster and laugh maker all round."

Barbi-cure, raising awareness of childhood cancer

A Parkville College student is hosting a barbeque for all staff and students. This event will connect the community over the Summer, when many struggle most. However, there is a deeper intention, as the student will be raising awareness of a family whose child has cancer, aiming to inspire the community to support them on their journey to get treatment in America.

"Many of my family have gone through hardship connected with their children. This is a way I can make a difference. Newsletter readers can donate at gf.me/u/wcstzh. At the time of printing, I have already raised: \$2505."

Umoja Festival, celebrating African heritage and culture

Students involved in the African cultural program are setting up a mini festival for both the Parkville and Malmsbury Sites of Parkville College. Students will be involved in festival programming, set up and performance.

"We will apply what we have learnt, boosting our spirits and self-confidence, creating a sense of belonging and connecting us with culture through music, poetry, drumming and dance. Community elders will attend, providing us with advice and guidance."

Murnong Mammams, cultural cooking project at Mamsbury Site

Building on last year's Maori and Sudanese Cooking Days, students worked with local Aboriginal Chefs to learn about and cook native foods, coming together for a day of cultural celebration.



"It was interesting to cook with food that grows locally and to get knowledge of our people's traditional practice which has been lost to many of us here."

Ask - merchandise with a message

Designing keep cups, stickers and bottles for the Parkville Community, raising awareness of non-binary people. The message: to ASK what someone's pronoun is when you meet them, and not assume they are he or she.

"I have had many issues growing up, with little understanding of me being non-binary. I hope this will raise awareness, and support young people like myself in the future."

Congratulations to...



Samira Liban hosted the 2018 YF Celebration and set up a successful YF Project for girls. This year she has embarked on further study at Latrobe Uni, studying early childhood. We wish you the best of luck! Read Samira's story [here](#).



Alinta Waitairie has completed her VCAL in sports education. She was a terrific leader at *Young and Deadly* this year and was also MC at the 2019 YF Celebration, subsequently picking up further work from the youth service. We look forward to working with you more in 2020!



Akolda Bil has completed his Community Development Diploma and now has full time work as a youth worker with City of Yarra. Akolda has become a bit of a local celebrity, sharing his successful transition out of the youth justice system into education and employment. Watch his story [here](#).



Sahar Al Moosawi worked on a film about what young Muslim women need as they grow up as part of her work experience with us. See the film [here](#).

Magazine for Parkville College

This year a student has applied for money to print a magazine which will share stories, lyrics, art work and ideas created by students across the different settings at the Parkville College sites.

"Writing feels like I'm achieving something, doing something. The magazine would be good for others in the precinct because they won't feel so alone. It gives people a chance to understand someone else and it allows us to express ourselves."



Youth Foundation is made possible by the following supporters:



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Get in touch

Youth Foundation provides youth-led projects for West Heidelberg and Parkville College, enabling young people to make significant changes for themselves and their communities, through a pathway of opportunities where they can connect, participate, contribute and lead. If you, or young people you work with, have an idea for a 2020 project which will support your community in some way, please get in touch.

For more information contact the Youth Facilitator

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