Volunteer Opportunities for Teens

**Literacy**

**County of Los Angeles Public Library**
Volunteer opportunities include library ambassadors, library materials helper, homework/internet helper, or library advocacy. Visit your local county library for more information and an application!

**KOREH L.A.**

**Los Angeles Public Library**
Teens can be Homework Assistants, help with programs, or serve on the Teen Council. Ask the adult librarian at your local library.

**Libros Schimbros (Boyle Heights)**
Join Libros Schimbros in putting books into the hands of Los Angeles residents, while spreading the pleasures of literature and its power to change lives. From shelving books to helping patrons with book selection to independent projects, Libros will welcome you into the family! Visit [http://www.librosschmibros.org/volunteer](http://www.librosschmibros.org/volunteer) for volunteer opportunities.

**Reading to Kids**
Help spread the love of reading to children in Los Angeles! Reading to Kids hosts monthly reading clubs where volunteers read aloud to small groups of children and conduct arts and crafts projects at selected elementary schools. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. Visit [www.readingtokids.org](http://www.readingtokids.org) for more information.

**Education**

**Maker Guilds**
Interested in engineering, computers, woodwork, or sewing? Maker Guilds helps communities provide opportunities for children, educators, and parents to use materials and tools that incorporate Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math as Language of Self Expression. Through a series of activities and afterschool programs, teens can empower children to use their creative imaginations to life! To become a Teen Inventerns, visit [http://www.makerguild.org/volunteer/](http://www.makerguild.org/volunteer/) for more information.

**School on Wheels**
School on Wheels provides educational resources to homeless children in Southern California by implementing one-on-one weekly tutoring sessions, packing backpacks, canvassing or recruiting interns. Teens from 16-18 years of age can become tutors! Check out the volunteer page for more information, [http://www.schoolonwheels.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer](http://www.schoolonwheels.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer).
**Art & Writing**

**CoachArt**
Assist CoachArt in creating a transformative arts and athletics community for families impacted by childhood chronic illness. Volunteers do not need to be experts, but they must be confident to teach a 12 week session of beginner-level lessons and provide an activity without support. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to participate. Please email volunteer@coachart.org to find out more. Or visit www.coachart.org for more information.

**WriteGirl**
Become a WriteGirl mentee! Are you interested in exploring poetry, songs, screenplays, fiction and other kinds of creative writing? Would you like a professional woman writer to mentor you and help you with your writing? The program is for high school girls between the ages of 13 and 18, and that live in or near the Los Angeles area. It is completely free, fun, and filled with creative writing projects! Check out http://www.writegirl.org/ for more information and application.

**Museums**

**California Science Center (near USC)**
The California Science Center offers a variety of volunteer opportunities for teens (minimum age is 16 years old) and adults. Volunteers join staff members in educating guests about exhibitions, conducting interaction workshops and demonstrations, helping with science fairs, or providing administrative support. Visit the volunteer page, [http://californiasciencecenter.org/support/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities](http://californiasciencecenter.org/support/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities), for more information.

**Los Angeles Zoo & Botanical Gardens (Northeast of Griffith Park)**
Become a student volunteer and help the Zoo run education programs, such as Zoo World Patch and the World of Birds Show, or help coordinate special events throughout the year. All applicants must be entering the 9th or 10th grade in the Fall. Check out the Student Volunteer page at [http://www.lazoo.org/support/volunteer/student/](http://www.lazoo.org/support/volunteer/student/).

**Natural History Museum (near USC)**
Youth volunteers between 16-17 years old can work side-by-side with adult volunteers, at museum exhibitions and behind the scenes. Check out the Youth Volunteer page at [http://www.nhm.org/site/join-us/volunteers-docents/youth-volunteering](http://www.nhm.org/site/join-us/volunteers-docents/youth-volunteering).

**Page Museum at La Brea Tar Pits (Museum Row)**
Interested in prehistoric history or fossils? The Page Museum is a unique and exciting venue for discovering and bringing the prehistoric world to people of all ages! Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Visit [http://www.tarpirts.org/join-us/volunteer](http://www.tarpirts.org/join-us/volunteer) to find out about becoming an Education Volunteer or Fossil Lab Volunteer.

**Community Organizations**

**Community Build**
Community Build is a non-profit community development corporation in South Los Angeles dedicated to youth outreach and empowerment. For information about volunteering, please email info@communitybuild.org.
Esperanza Community Housing Corporation (South Los Angeles)
A 25-year-old social justice nonprofit organization, ECHC works to meet the social, health, educational, financial, and cultural needs of the South Los Angeles community. Volunteers can assist in any of the organization’s daily activities, whether it’s social media outreach, administrative assistance, or event planning. Refer to http://www.esperanzacommunityhousing.org/get-involved/volunteer-positions/ for contact information.

The Friendship Circle
All year round, The Friendship Circle hosts a variety of programs to provide Jewish children with special needs with a full range of support. Join them by volunteering in Friends at Home, Basketball Club, or Sunday Circle! Go to http://www.fcla.org/.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles (Miracle Mile)
Get involved in the Jewish community through various Young Leadership programs that connect with Jewish values as you network socially, professionally and philanthropically. See http://www.jewishla.org/pages/youth-and-leadership-development for more information.

LA Commons
LA Commons works across Los Angeles neighborhoods to empower residents through community-based arts programs that express their culture and history. Visit www.lacommons.org for upcoming events, sites, and volunteer opportunities.

LINC Cares
A sub-program of LINC Housing, LINC Cares offers life-enhancing services to families, seniors, and people with special needs that live in LINC Housing communities. Activities include after-school and summer programs, health classes, social events, nature outings, and arts and culture activities. Volunteers can enter any of the diverse range of service opportunities! Find out more information at http://www.linchousing.org/linccares/volunteer.html.

Proyecto Pastoral (Boyle Heights)
Proyecto Pastoral assists the Boyle Heights community through a variety of programs focusing on education, literacy, homelessness, community organizing, donations, etc. Become an IMPACTO Mentor or volunteer for a different project at http://www.proyectopastoral.org/volunteeropportunities.php.

Summer Night Lights
SUMMER ONLY. The City of Los Angeles and the Gang Reduction and Youth Development Foundation keep recreation centers and parks open during summer nights to reduce violence in the city. Apply to become a Youth Squad member by April 30, 2015! You can find the application at http://www.grydfoundation.org/summer-night-lights/snl-hiring-and-gryd-services.

Food & Environment

Communities for a Better Environment (Huntington Park)
If you’re interested in gaining valuable experience while learning about environmental justice, CBE has volunteer and internship opportunities. The South California office is located in the Southeast Los Angeles city of Huntington Park. Please refer to this page http://www.cbecal.org/get-involved/volunteer-internship-opportunities/ for more information and contact information.
Heal the Bay
Help protect the ocean from pollution and clean up California’s beaches by volunteering for a Beach Cleanup at least once a month. Check out the Beach Cleanups page for upcoming events, http://www.healthebay.org/get-involved/volunteer/cleanups.

Los Angeles Regional Food Bank (Vernon)
Volunteers are needed to help sort, inspect, and repackage donated food items from local food drives and donations. Minimum age requirement to volunteer is 14 years-old. Follow www.lafoodbank.org for volunteer opportunities.

Mountains Restoration Trust (Santa Monica):
MRT offers great volunteer and internship opportunities for those interested in the areas of environmental science, public relations, event planning, community outreach, or administration. Check out their volunteer page for more information at http://www.mountainstrust.org/about/volunteers.html.

Proyecto Jardin (Boyle Heights)
Located in Boyle Heights, this urban garden in the community emphasizes a sustainable community food system and promotes cross-cultural learning through gardening, organizing, and managing small operations. Volunteers do not need to be experts! Volunteers can join programs focused on farming, engaging in corporate community service, sharing knowledge of food sustainability, or mobilizing for collective action. Visit http://proyectojardin.org/ for more information.

Tree People
Help make LA green! Volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Check out https://www.treepeople.org/volunteer for upcoming volunteer opportunities.