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❄️ Welcome to the **June 2023** edition of the Study Melbourne Student Update! ❄️

As we enter the winter season, remember to stay warm and take some time for yourself; rest and self-care are important no matter the temperature. 🐾

Here are our top picks for the best things to see and do this winter, both in the [City of Melbourne](#) and in [regional Victoria](#):

Experience [Juliet – The New Musical](#)

Shakespeare not as you know it, but remixed—this refreshing spin on the tale of Romeo and Juliet has taken the world by storm. With its addictive soundtrack of pop anthems by artists like Britney Spears, the Backstreet Boys and Ariana Grande, this feel-good musical will put a smile on your face and leave a catchy tune stuck in your mind.

Reconnect with nature at [Daylesford and the Macedon Ranges](#)

Looking for a weekend getaway? Why not take a day trip to Daylesford and the Macedon Ranges. See a waterfall up-close at Trentham Falls, visit the iconic Hanging Rock, or take a stroll through Macedon Regional Park.

Celebrate the city's local art scene at [Melbourne Now](#)

Melbourne Now 2023 is an art exhibition that highlights the latest art, architecture, design, and cultural practice shaping Melbourne. Displayed throughout all levels of The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia until 20 August, see new and ambitious local

artwork and design across a wide range of mediums, from painting and performance to fashion and ceramics.

 **See a kangaroo or two at the [Healesville Sanctuary](#)**

Just an hour away from Melbourne in the stunning Yarra Valley region, Healesville Sanctuary offers an authentic Australian wildlife experience. Walk down tranquil tracks and see (and maybe get up close and personal with) iconic Australian animals such as koalas, kangaroos, dingoes and more.

 **Get some street food at the [Winter Night Market](#)**

Dress up in your warmest clothes and head to the Queen Victoria Market at night. Try some of Melbourne's best street food, grab a pint at the local brewers and distillers, shop at the local stalls, and enjoy the lively entertainment by roaring, open fires.

No matter the weather, we hope you discover and experience something new in Melbourne and regional Victoria.

Thank you for being subscribed to our newsletter; read on for more Study Melbourne updates and events!

Study Melbourne Team

UPDATES

! IMPORTANT CHANGES TO WORKING HOURS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

From **1 July 2023**, the number of hours an international student can work each fortnight will be capped at **48 hours**. This cap is only applicable during semester/term time with no limit during semester/term breaks.

Please note that international students **already working** in the aged care sector are exempt from the 48 hours per fortnight work limit until 31 December 2023.



To learn more about these changes and whether they may affect you, please visit [our website](#).

Melbourne is now the 3rd most liveable city in the world

It's official: Melbourne has again been ranked as Australia's most liveable city, and is now the 3rd most liveable city in the world! 🎉



Melbourne has moved up seven ranks on this year's [Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Liveability Index 2023](#).

Across five broad categories, Melbourne scored a perfect 100 in Healthcare, Infrastructure, and Education. Discover what makes Melbourne Australia's premier study destination for international students on [our website](#).

Heartfelt and meaningful local connections at the Study Melbourne Hub HCMC

Study Melbourne Hub Ho Chi Minh City recently organised two events to strengthen Victorian community engagement in Vietnam.

On May 11, Study Melbourne Hub HCMC hosted a Blood Donor Day, in collaboration with the Blood Transfusion and Hematology Hospital. Victorian and local students, alumni, and employees from our network came together to give blood, with 82 people donating on the day.



On 26 May, the Melbourne Polytechnic Students' Art Exhibition featured the artworks of 10 students from Melbourne Polytechnic Australia and 30 students from FPT Melbourne Polytechnic Vietnam. Both student groups were able to enjoy and give their thoughts and feedback on each other's artwork.

Not only does the Study Melbourne Hub Ho Chi Minh City offer a vibrant space to study and make new friends, but it also provides opportunities to contribute to the community and thrive as an international student. For more information about our events and activities, head over to [our website](#)!

The winners of our Leadership Labs 4Impact Pitch Competition! 🏆



After 12 weeks of engaging workshops, the top 10 4Impact teams participated in the final pitch competition at the Multicultural Centre on 25 May. Each team pitched their project idea to a distinguished panel of judges, focusing on one of 3 United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals: Climate Action, Work and Economic Growth, and Gender Equality. The top 3 winning teams received certificates from Study Melbourne and prize money to kickstart their projects.

We are delighted to announce the winning teams:

Winner: Green Unity (Kushal Singhal, Eve Ong, Aanvi Batavia) – Green Unity aims to provide nutritious, affordable meal recipes to international students in Melbourne. You can learn more about their initiative on [their website](#).

2nd Place: No \$ense (Abi Guiyab, Bill Sinclair) – No \$ense aims to empower international students by enhancing financial literacy and building local connections in the form of workshops and events.

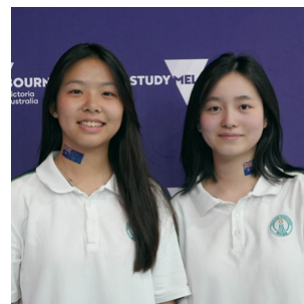
3rd Place: La Foundary (Hui Tek Wu, Anh Van, Shikhar Jung Shahi Thakuri) – La Foundary aims to help build a sustainable world by transforming industrial waste and renewable agricultural resources into bio-material solutions that can be used in various industries. You can learn more about their initiative on [their website](#).

Leadership Labs is part of Study Melbourne's *Empowered Series*, a Victorian Government initiative that provides professional development programs for international students. If you're interested in joining one of our future programs, you can read more about them on [our website](#).

Study Melbourne High School Open Day in Zhuji

Study Melbourne delivered an engaging school open-day event at Ronghuai International School in Zhuji, Zhejiang Province in China on 27 May.

Victorian tertiary institutions such as RMIT University, Swinburne University of Technology, Australian Catholic University Melbourne Campus, La Trobe University and Monash University had the chance to connect with over 300 Year 11 and 12 students through a series of activities based around Victorian culture such as trying Melbourne's signature coffee.



It's the first time Study Melbourne has held a large scale, on-campus promotional event in China at an international school. Study Melbourne will continue to work closely with international schools, vocational institutions, and universities to showcase what Melbourne has to offer, encouraging Chinese international students to make Melbourne part of their story.

Did you know that Study Melbourne has a [WeChat](#)? Connect with us there for the latest news, views, and information!

STEM Sisters Mentoring Program 2023

 *Calling all aspiring women of colour (WOC) in STEM!*

Supported by Study Melbourne, the STEM Sisters Mentoring Program is excited to announce that they are now accepting expressions of interest from mentees for their **empowering mentorship program**.



Are you a current student, recent graduate, early-career professional, STEM returner, or considering a career shift in STEM? This program is designed specifically for you!

By joining the STEM Sisters Mentoring Program, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Gain insights and guidance from experienced WOC mentors in STEM
- Strengthen your skills to succeed in the STEM industry
- Expand your professional network and connections
- Overcome challenges and barriers unique to WOC in STEM
- Receive tailored support based on your interests and career goals

To express your interest, simply visit the [program's website](#) and complete the mentee application form.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so apply now!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONFERENCE 2023

Explore what professional success and growth can look like in our ever-changing digital age with Meld Community and the City of Melbourne at this year's Melbourne International Student Conference (MISC). Don't miss out on the chance to boost your career, connect with topics you're passionate about, network with industry professionals, and learn from a diverse group of inspiring speakers.



Grab yourself a Study Melbourne plushie in the welcome bags and look out for our Ambassadors and Victorian International Education Award winners.

Book your tickets now on [MISC's website](#).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL OF MELBOURNE

The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IIFM) is currently seeking dedicated individuals to join their team as volunteers. No previous experience is required, although any prior experience in the media field, such as marketing, design, or editing, would be highly advantageous.



For more information, and if you're interested in applying, visit [IFFM's website](#).

NATIVE NATURE 101 WORKSHOPS

Supported by the Study Melbourne Inclusion Program, Laneway Learning is delivering Native Nature 101, a series of **free**, curated workshops aimed at international students to discover, play and connect with native plants, food, bees and more.



These workshops, which run throughout **July**, aim to bring you closer to nature, promote mental wellbeing and lifelong learning, and encourage connection with other participants.

Learn more about each program and register for the ones you're interested in on [Laneway Learning's website](#).

ASIALINK BUSINESS - 'INTERNATIONAL STUDENT' TO 'INTERNATIONAL ADVISOR' PROGRAM

Are you keen to share your insights on Asia and build your professional network in Melbourne? Join the 'International Student' to 'International Advisor' program this September!



Supported by Study Melbourne, Asialink Business will offer a series of workshops to:

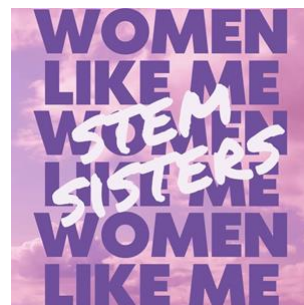
- Share your experiences and knowledge of the fast-changing Asia landscape,
- Connect you with local businesses,
- Build your understanding of the Australian workplace,
- Help you meet new people, exchange stories, and build deeper connections.

Applications closes 13 August 2023. To get more information about the program and to find out if you're eligible, visit [AsiaLink's website](#).

WOMEN LIKE ME

 *Calling all women of colour in STEM fields in Victoria!*

Join STEM Sisters for an empowering and inspiring event, 'Women Like Me'.



Supported by Study Melbourne, STEM Sisters will deliver a panel discussion and networking event designed to connect, inspire, and uplift you, featuring accomplished professionals who've paved their way in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

They'll tackle topics like overcoming imposter syndrome, navigating workplace dynamics, balancing life's spheres, and more. There will also be a Q&A session for you to engage directly with the exceptional lineup of speakers, and a post-discussion networking session where you can connect, build relationships, and find mentors among other women of colour in STEM.

DATE & TIME: 27 June, 5 PM – 7 PM (AEST)

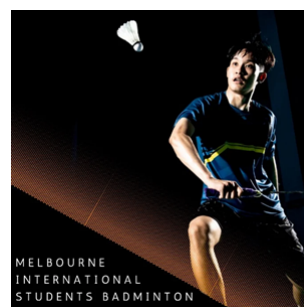
LOCATION: ACS (Australian Computer Society) Victoria, Level 14/839 Collins St, Docklands VIC 3008

Let's unite, foster community, and break the glass ceiling together!

Register now on [STEM Sisters' website](#).

MELBOURNE IS BADMINTON

Supported by Study Melbourne, MELBOURNE IS BADMINTON provides social networking opportunities for international students by offering weekly badminton activities. The program supports students' mental health and wellbeing through physical activity and engagement with fellow international students.



Have fun, make connections, and meet new friends on and off the badminton court!

Join the next badminton session by visiting the [program's website](#).

DISCOVER VICTORIA'S ABORIGINAL CULTURE

Learn more about Victoria's Aboriginal Culture by attending a special tour led by the [Koorie Heritage Trust](#).

Beginning at Federation Square in Naarm/Melbourne, the tour will take you to the Birrarung/Yarra River to explore local history and landscape. You will handle Aboriginal artefacts and discover tools used for traditional hunting and gathering.



This is a wonderful opportunity for international students to experience the significance of First Nations culture.

Places are limited, so don't hesitate; register now at the links below:

Tour 1: Monday 26 June at 2 pm – Register for Tour 1 on [Eventbrite](#)

Tour 2: Thursday 13 July at 2pm – Register for Tour 2 on [Eventbrite](#)

THE COUCH - FREE DINNER & EVENTS FOR STUDENTS

The Couch is committed to providing international students with a safe place to make friends, learn new skills, have fun, access free cooked meals, give back through volunteering and connect with the local community through events and activities. The Couch is an initiative of the City of Melbourne and the Salvation Army Melbourne Project 614.



The Couch is open from Monday to Thursday, between 6pm – 8:30pm, and is located at The Salvation Army Melbourne Project 614, 69 Bourke Street, Melbourne. Entry is free and a hot meal is included.

Learn more about The Couch on their [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

STUDENT STORIES

Studying in Melbourne: Harja's Experience



Meet Harja Bibi, an international student from Pakistan who has called Melbourne her home for the past 2 years. She has discovered the perfect fusion of academic excellence, delectable cuisine, and a warm and inclusive atmosphere in this incredible city.

Melbourne has exceeded Harja's expectations, leaving her with cherished memories that will last a lifetime. She wholeheartedly recommends Melbourne to every international student looking to go on an extraordinary education journey.

Read her story on our [website](#)!

SERVICES & SUPPORT

Study Melbourne Hub, Victoria



[The Study Melbourne Hub](#) (formerly called the Study Melbourne Student Centre) is a dedicated space for all international students in Victoria. We provide support, events, connections, and opportunities.

All international students are encouraged to visit the Hub to learn about the space and the services we offer. You can also contact us to make an appointment via email or our

24/7 phone line.

At the Hub you can:

- Access student workspaces
- Get tips on everything about living and studying in Victoria
- Enjoy free coffee, lollies and biscuits

Address: 17 Hardware Lane, Melbourne.

Opening hours: 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday

24/7 phone line:

- **Local call:** 1800 056 449
- **Overseas call:** +61 3 9623 1512

Email: info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au

Legal help at Study Melbourne Hub



The **International Student Employment and Accommodation Legal Service (ISEALS)** provides free and confidential legal advice to international students located anywhere in Victoria about their employment and accommodation rights. The service is available online or in person at the Study Melbourne Hub, Victoria. We assist students with issues like:

- Underpayment
- Bullying and discrimination
- Injury at work
- Sexual harassment
- Unfairly being fired, or forced to quit your job
- Being engaged as an independent contractor
- Rental properties that fall below standard
- Issues with bond and rent
- Changes to renting arrangements

Students can contact the [Study Melbourne Hub](#) to make an appointment. Visit [the ISEALS webpage](#) for more information and short videos about the service.

Additional support for international students

Study Melbourne continues to provide help and support for international students including:

- Help to find part-time work through the [Jobs Victoria online hub](#)
- [Utility relief grants](#) to help pay overdue bills
- Free, one-to-one support and advice through [Partners in Wellbeing](#)
- Information about [family violence and state-wide support services](#)

USEFUL LINKS

Health and wellbeing

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Victoria updates](#)

[Study Melbourne Hub](#)

Work

[Working in Victoria](#)

[Your rights at work](#)

[Jobs Victoria online hub](#)



Transport

[International Student Travel Pass](#)

[Metro Trains](#)

Safety

[Student safety](#)

[Victoria Police](#)

Others

[Legal advice](#)

[Events](#)



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