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

On these crisp, sunny days, there's always something to do around Melbourne to make this Autumn a great one. 🍁🍂

Here are our top picks for some exciting events to start your autumn adventures, both in [the city of Melbourne](#) and in [regional Victoria](#):

🏈 **Head to a [footy match](#)**

Going to an Australian Football League (AFL) game is a must-do experience. The electrifying atmosphere and the contagious passion of footy fans will make it an unforgettable part of your Australian journey.

🧑‍🌾 **Enjoy a [hot air balloon ride](#)**

What better way to discover Australia's beauty than to see it from up above! Take advantage of the cooler temperatures and clear skies with this thrilling activity.

🍷 **Visit the [Yarra Valley](#)**

Indulge in delicious cheese platters as you take in the stunning views, all while learning about how wine is made. If you've got a sweet tooth, then the [chocolate factory](#) is the place for you!

🎭 **Watch [The Rocky Horror Show](#) – the musical**

One of the world's most popular musicals, and the only contemporary rock musical to celebrate 50 years on stage, is coming back to Melbourne! Thrilling, energetic, iconic – it's a must-watch for fans of this timeless classic and for anyone looking for a good time.

🌞 Explore the [RISING Festival](#)

RISING is music, food, art and culture, all under moonlight, right in the heart of Naarm (Melbourne). Get a taste of Melbourne city's nightlife and enjoy some good beats, good food and good vibes.

🎨 Lose yourself at [the Imaginator](#)

Experience a new form of immersive play at Imaginator. Technology and imagination collide to create stunning, sensory landscapes, where you can relax and enjoy the various installations at your own pace.

Whether you're wanting to escape the city life or immerse yourself in it, we hope you find something to discover in Melbourne and regional Victoria this season.

- Study Melbourne Team

UPDATES

Study the day away at the Study Melbourne Hub!



Take respite from Melbourne's changing weather at the **Study Melbourne Hub** in Hardware Lane.

Not only is it warm and cosy, but there's free coffee, tea, lollies, biscuits and WiFi, and the kindest staff ready to help you with anything you need.

Drop by for an hour or stay for the day! You can learn more about the Hub and everything it has to offer on [our website](#).

Study Melbourne Future Founders Venture Scholarship recipients



Caption: From left Megan Woff, one of the judges, Sabrina Leung (Stint), Eugenia Yuan (Inspiring Chats), Nguyen Hanh Nguyen (Plante), and Joseph Yap (ZeroTag)

The **Study Melbourne Future Founders Venture Scholarship** is the only international student focused

initiative in Victoria that offers seed funding for entrepreneurship ventures.

Venture Scholarships provide international students—who are leading new business ventures—with start-up funding, a StartSpace Loft membership, and one-on-one coaching and mentoring opportunities.

Read more about our talented recipients on [our website](#).

Study Melbourne Inclusion Program 2023 – Supported Projects



The **Study Melbourne Inclusion Program (SMIP)** forms part of [Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025](#) to support international students in Victoria.

The SMIP provides funding for activities that promote the wellbeing of international students and enhance their experience living in Victoria.

This year, Study Melbourne has funded 15 projects that will help support international students and their wellbeing while enhancing their time in Melbourne and in regional Victoria. Projects include:

- *The NGV Language Exchange program* by the National Gallery of Victoria, which welcomes international students from non-English speaking backgrounds to participate in art-inspired programs designed to encourage social connection and build their confidence with conversational English
- *The International Student Mental Health Peer Work project* by Orygen, which lets international students use their own experiences with mental health and moving to Australia to study to support their peers, and
- *The Melbourne Victory x Student FC program* by Melbourne Victory Football Club, which will recruit 100 international students to train and play football, helping to build relationships with other club members and providing opportunities to practice their language skills.

You can learn more about the SMIP and the rest of the projects we funded on [our website](#).

Melbourne's thriving biotech community leads Australia's pharmaceutical industry



Melbourne has the biggest biotech community in Australia, making up over 60% of the country's pharmaceutical exports and benefiting from the fast-growing Asia Pacific market.

Additionally, the city's medical and scientific infrastructure allows for the advanced research, development, and commercialisation of sophisticated drugs, regenerative

medicine, and mRNA innovations across all pharmaceutical fields. Now, Melbourne hosts more than 70% of Australia's leading pharmaceutical and MedTech firms.

For those interested in studying pharmacology, Monash University was ranked second globally for pharmacology according to the [2023 QS World University Rankings by Subject](#).

Explore the pharmacology courses available to you via our [Course Finder](#).

Applications for the 2023 Victorian International Education Awards (VIEA) are closing soon!



If you're an international student or alumni and you're proud of what you've achieved academically, have honed your leadership skills while being in Australia, or have regularly given back to the community to make a positive change, then be sure to submit your application(s) for the **VIEA**!

This is a great opportunity for you to showcase your talents and accomplishments and win up to \$6,000 to support your studies.

Applications are open until **Monday 5 June 2023, 11:59 pm AEST**. [Apply now!](#)

Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur - Coffee and Comedy Night



Despite the rainy weather, over 110 attendees enjoyed a night filled with laughs and caffeine at the Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur **Coffee and Comedy Night**.

The event, which coincided with the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, featured three comedians — Gajen Nad, Phoon Chi Ho, and Aw Yuong Tuck — all of whom are Victorian alumni. In addition to their stellar comedy sets, the audience was treated to a selection of Victorian tea and coffee, a homage to Melbourne's famous coffee culture.

The night was a great opportunity for many students to network and socialise, including New Colombo Plan (NCP) scholars. As some of the NCP scholars have only recently arrived in Malaysia, they got a taste of what Malaysian lifestyle and culture is all about through the art of comedy and coffeemaking.

The Study Melbourne Hub remains committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive community where international students can feel safe and supported.

If you're interested in learning more about the programs and events happening at Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur, please visit [our website](#).

Career Catalyst workshop – Building a great LinkedIn profile



If you're looking to stand out in today's competitive job market, having a strong LinkedIn profile is a must. Employers and hiring managers are now relying on online platforms to assess a candidate's suitability for a role, with LinkedIn being their first choice.

Our workshop offers essential skills to help you create a LinkedIn profile that sets you apart from the rest.

You'll learn how to:

- Navigate LinkedIn
- Craft compelling content
- Select a suitable, professional profile picture
- Design a banner that reflects your personal brand
- Optimise your profile for maximum visibility
- And so much more!

Investing time and effort into creating a great LinkedIn profile will get you one step closer to landing your dream job, so don't miss out!

Date: Tuesday 30 May 2023

Time: 12-1 pm AEST

Cost: Free

Interested? [Register now!](#)

Career Catalyst workshop – Navigating the Australian Workplace



Working in Australia can be very different compared to other countries, with its own set of norms and expectations. From the application stage through to training on the job, our workshop will help you better navigate the Australian workplace culture.

You'll learn how to:

- Conduct yourself in interviews
- Ensure transparency around role expectations
- Understand workplace culture
- Integrate socially within the company and build new relationships

Date: Wednesday 24 May 2023

Time: 4-6 pm AEST

Cost: Free

Want to learn more? [Register now!](#)

SafeTALK – suicide prevention workshop for international students



Proudly supported by Study Melbourne, Orygen is working to make their SafeTALK training more effective and relevant to international students. **SafeTALK** is a workshop that aims to educate its participants on how to recognise suicide warning signs and how to get help to those who need it.

Orygen is seeking 20 international students to participate in a one-day co-design workshop on Friday June 9 at

Orygen's office in Parkville.

Participating students will complete the SafeTALK training and participate in a co-design session, run by researchers from the University of Melbourne, which will help shape the workshop to better meet the needs of international students. Participants will also receive a reimbursement of \$180 for their time/contribution and enjoy free lunch and refreshments.

Let's work together to support each other's mental health and well-being.

To register your interest in participating in this workshop, please fill out [this form](#).

International student volunteering opportunity at RISING Festival 2023



RISING is a festival that celebrates music, food, art and culture, all under moonlight, in the heart of Melbourne.

From 7 June to 18 June, RISING will host 185 events featuring more than 400 artists, 35 commissions and 12 world premieres, such as international music performances and ice skating under the stars.

The festival orbits around Flinders Street Station, and spills out into the streets, car parks, churches, theatres, the town square and Birrarung Marr (Yarra River).

If you're keen to be a part of RISING, come and sign up for a volunteering spot to assist us with the [10,000 Kazoos event](#) on Saturday 10 June 2023. Get in touch at community@rising.melbourne and include your name, pronoun, email address, your availability on 10 June 2023, and whether you have any accessibility requirements.

STUDENT STORIES

Rocker Nguyen's Melbourne study experience



Introducing Rocker Nguyen - a Vietnamese musician, actor, and filmmaker who shares his passion for Melbourne and his inspiring journey from [Monash University](#) student to thriving artist.

[Be inspired by his journey.](#) 🎨🎬

Is Melbourne the study destination for you?



Fazil, a current student at [Swinburne University](#) pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Information and Communication Technology, has some valuable insights to share.

Check out [his blog](#) for tips and insights!

Meet our student ambassador – Jayden Huang



Jayden (he/him) is a passionate, energetic, and friendly person. He is currently enrolled at the [University of Melbourne](#), where he is majoring in psychology.

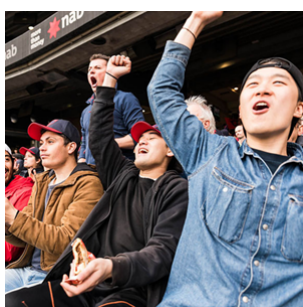
His long-term plans include becoming a fantastic student ambassador by sharing his wonderful experiences as an international student in Victoria with many other students.

Jayden has participated in numerous extracurricular activities, and he believes that doing so would allow students to broaden horizons and become better versions of ourselves. *"Let us all grow together."*

Meet Jayden and our other student ambassadors on [our website](#).

DISCOVER MELBOURNE

Melbourne is the only city in the world with five international standard sporting facilities



Each month, we share an interesting fact about Melbourne.

This month, we'll delve into why Melbourne is the sporting capital of Australia, and the world. Melbourne is the only city in the world with five international standard sporting facilities. On the outskirts of the city's central business district, you'll find the Melbourne Cricket Ground, Docklands

Stadium, Rod Laver Arena, Hisense Arena and Olympic Park in Melbourne Park.

Learn more about our sporting facilities 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.

Jobs Victoria Advocates at the Study Melbourne Hub every Monday and Thursday



Every **Monday** from 12 pm to 4 pm and every **Thursday** from 1 pm to 3 pm, advocates from Jobs Victoria will be at the Study Hub to assist international students with their job search. The service can:

- Help students find employment support, training and education
- Share information and tips about getting a job
- Support students to apply for jobs on the [Jobs Victoria online hub](#)
- Connect students to other services such as housing support or counselling

Beware of scams targeting Chinese international students



Recently, there have been two scams targeting Chinese international students. One involves the scammer (speaking in Mandarin) pretending to be a Chinese authority figure and threatening to get you extradited to China unless you send money.

The other involves the scammer threatening you and your family with criminal charges unless you pretend you've been kidnapped. Keep yourself safe by learning more about these scams on [our website](#) so you can spot them in the future.

Question of the month

What is ELICOS and why should I consider studying it?

Answer: ELICOS stands for English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students. It is a course that provides solely or mostly English language instruction to international students who hold a student visa to study in Australia. There are many benefits to taking an ELICOS course, including improving your English language

proficiency, preparing you for further studies in Australia, and increasing your employability. ELICOS courses can also serve as a pathway to universities or can be taken as a one-off course to improve your language skills.

See what ELICOS courses are available using our [Course Finder](#).

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

[iUSEpass](#)

[Metro Trains](#)

Safety

[Student safety](#)

[Victoria Police](#)

Others

[Legal advice](#)

[Events](#)





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