

VOTE MAJA

For Volunteer officer

Introduction:



Hi! Are you thinking about volunteering? My name is Maja, and I am running for Volunteering officer.

I have been an avid volunteer since high-school, and as a result got involved with SVS as soon as I came to university. I have helped with countless volunteer projects and as a result this year became Youth Project officer, and I am now in charge of over 20 volunteer projects. And despite COVID, I have managed to bring new projects on board as well as increasing the collaboration between them. I have found my time on SVS at university extremely rewarding. It has allowed me to promote something I love: volunteering, as well as improve awareness surrounding local charities. My favourite moment this year had to have been matching a befriending volunteer, with a kid who was really into airplanes! When posting the request for a volunteer, I got such a flurry of support that really moved me.

Have a look at what I've written below to see what I would do as your volunteer officer.

Thank you for reading my manifesto! If you have any questions feel free to FB message me or drop me an email mjl22@st-andrews.ac.uk

My manifesto points:

1. Community 2. Awareness 3. Training 4. Recognition 5. Careers

1. Community

- More events**, let's all meet each other: volunteer pub quizzes, Pot lucks, educational talks, more and more befriending opportunities.
- Engage with the COVID support group**, to ensure they are supported, set up a phone call befriending for those who have been or spent a majority of the pandemic in isolation.
- Help **support the universities established wellbeing projects**: buddying in halls, peer support, sexpression.
- Set up more **degree specific projects**-

2. Awareness

- Fix the website!** And make sure all of our project information is up to date, with resources about the charities and other things you can do in the community, such as how to help in your subject area.
- Get **degree representatives**, to see if there are any volunteer or support positions in each degree area!
- Implement the **accessibility pledge**, and make sure that our project applications and social media are accessible to anyone who wants to apply.
- Create a **buddying system for volunteers**, so they are matched up with people on the same or similar projects to increase volunteer contact and make it easier for everyone

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3. Training

- Make **project specific training** so that volunteers feel more prepared going into their sessions
- Collaborate with more societies** such as transition when making the training, to make it not only educational but informative so we can recruit and inform volunteers at the same time.
- Make our training more accessible**, have it available online in the form of course you can take whenever as a refresher.

4. Recognition

- Collaborate with other societies in specific project areas, for example environment officer and Transition, or the environment sub committee. To ensure we have the appropriate university links to connect as many potential volunteers as possible.
- Improve our social media following
- Give back awards expand SVS's** representations, so that we make sure volunteers get the recognition they deserve for all the work they do!
- Do **volunteer of the month**, with local businesses helping support the prizes.
- Publicise the CEED volunteer training**, so that volunteers can put it on their CV

5. Careers

- Continue putting on career events!** Including those tailored to students who want to find internships in the third sector
- Get **testimonials** from previous volunteers who are now working in the third sector, with how and why they did it!
- Transparency talks**, about how some of our concepts of charity are flawed and how some charities promote their personal economics over equity