



MILLERS POINT YOUTH & EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Issue 5, July 2008



Introduction

A big thank you on behalf of Millers Point Partnership to all of the volunteers that participate in our programmes, we really appreciate your support and hard work.

Reading Friends Programme

We currently have 48 volunteers from Lend Lease and Westpac taking part in the reading friends programme. The programme continues to be a success with positive feedback from the school principal, kids and volunteers. We are always looking for new volunteers from Lend Lease and Westpac to take part as Fort Street School continues to increase its intake of new students.



Bike Maintenance Programme

In October last year we held a Bike Maintenance programme. The programme focused on building a bike from kit form, riding skills and road safety. The programme was run in partnership with Clarence Street Cycles who generously donated their time to run the programme. There were also 5 Lend Lease mentors working alongside the young people supporting them during the programme. The programme was a great success; the positive feedback we received from young people has given us the incentive to hold another bike maintenance program this year.

In October we will be holding the second programme with Clarence Street Cycles. This will provide an opportunity for 8 young people in Millers Point to learn how to build a bike from kit form. The programme will be linked up with National Ride to Work Day. If you are interested in finding out more about the programme please contact Jessie 9277 2542.



Year 6-7 Transition Programme

We are in the process of organising a second transition programme for year 6 students at Fort Street to visit and experience Balmain High School for a morning with their reading friends. The programme will take place in December and will involve 10 students from Fort Street School. Students will be given lunch and a book pack as part of the program which is funded by Millers Point Youth & Employment Partnership.



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Activate Leadership Programme 2008

Last week 8 young people from Millers Point returned from the most recent Activate camp held on Milson Island in Hawkesbury River. This is the second programme we have run in partnership with Activate Australia. The programme focuses on developing leadership skills whilst improving confidence, self esteem and team work. The initial feedback has been very positive. We have decided to continue working with Activate Australia to provide more opportunities for young people in Millers Point to attend the programme in the future.



Millers Point Festival

The local residents of Millers Point have established a committee and non profit organisation to develop an annual festival in the local community. The inaugural festival will take place on Saturday 6th September on Observatory Hill, Millers Point. The festival will focus on the historical aspects of Millers Point and will be an opportunity to bring together the community to celebrate the area. Jessie Lenson is part of the committee and has been working with residents to help organise the festival. The local community is looking for volunteers in the lead up to the festival. If you are interested in finding out more information please visit the website.

<http://www.millerspointfestival.org.au/>

Rocksfest 2008

This year Rocksfest will take the form of an art exhibition, with art work developed by young people from Fort Street School, Abraham Mott Youth Centre and the KGV art group. Rocksfest will be held on Saturday 6th September as part of the Millers Point Festival. If you would like to volunteer your time to help with the preparation of the event please contact Jessie Lenson 9277-2542.

New Programmes

Millers Point Partnership has completed the Business plan for 2008/09 and has agreed on a number of new programmes and Initiatives for the coming year. Information will be available on these programs as they develop, along with invitations to participate in our programmes. All of our programmes are subject to consultation with the young people in Millers Point.

Youth Committee

The youth centre continues to hold a monthly youth feedback group, which is the first stage in the development of a youth committee. The Partnership sends a representative to attend meetings and asks for feedback on our programs and ideas for future programmes.

DGR Status

In July 2007 Millers Point Partnership was successful in gaining Deductible Gift Recipient status which means that all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Website

We are currently developing a website and brochure which is due to be launched at the end of September. We will be sending out invitations to the launch in a few weeks. I hope you will be able to join us.