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YOUTH PULSE

volunteer!

Youth Pulse is here to show you how to get plugged into where your community needs you most. Get involved and show how important youth involvement is to the Bay Area! Each month we focus on a different community need and highlight volunteer opportunities that will allow you to apply your talents and skills to that need and give back to your community!

It's November, which means it's National Novel Writing Month! Now, we don't expect you to sit down and write a novel, but thinking about books and reading reminds me of all the organizations in our community that work day-in and day-out to help people learn to read: adults, children and even teens like you! We've got a slew of volunteer opportunities in this month's Youth Pulse that will help you get connected to organizations that focus on literacy and reading!

Our Bay Area nonprofit community can always use your help, and there's a ton of weekend, afternoon and evening volunteer opportunities available that will fit right into your busy schedule, so take a look!



Youth Pulse Highlight

San Mateo Adult School provides student-centered continuing education to people of all ages and backgrounds. The Adult School serves 12,000 adults/year in free or low-cost classes in a number of different ways that respond to community educational needs. Tim Doyle, San Mateo Adult School's Volunteer Manager, says that youth volunteers, "Are very important to the students and staff at San Mateo Adult School."

Youth volunteers assist ESL (English as a Second Language) teachers by working with students individually or in small groups. Students come from diverse cultures and are working toward any number of goals such as: attaining citizenship, earning their GED, and improving their career potential. Tim says, "Youth volunteers are able to connect with our volunteer opportunities easily, because most classes are held on nights and weekends." That should make scheduling a time to volunteer a pretty easy task!

[To get involved with teaching English as a second language at San Mateo Adult School, click here!](#)

jumpstart



CONNECT EARLY

Assist the Early Literacy Initiative

Each year, one in three children enters kindergarten without the skills to succeed. Entering school without these skills can affect a child's long-term success, but as a Jumpstart Reader, you can help!

Jumpstart Readers volunteer in San Francisco preschools and community centers to read to and engage children in fun and educational activities. Reading and conversation helps build children's vocabulary, creativity, decision-making, and prepares them for school success. Jumpstart is working toward the day every child in America enters school

prepared to succeed, which is a cause we all can get behind!
[To get involved with Jumpstart, click here!](#)

Teach Adults and Kids to Read!

Since 1985, Project Read - Menlo Park of the Menlo Park Library has been providing literacy services to the community. Project Read - Menlo Park works out of community libraries to help adults and families improve their basic reading and writing skills. This helps them achieve their goals at home, in the community, at work, and as life long learners!

If you're interested in working with adult learners or preschool-age youth on a one-to-one basis, this may be the volunteer opportunity for you!

[For more information on how to get involved with Project Read, click here!](#)

Become a San Francisco School Volunteer.

By only giving one hour a week, you can help a student succeed in school! San Francisco School Volunteers recruits, supports and engages volunteers who inspire public school students to achieve their full potential. The best part about this volunteer opportunity is ... you may already be at the volunteer site! When you're done with your school day, you could help students with literacy and reading in your very own school!



[To get connected to San Francisco School Volunteers, click here!](#)

There are always so many different ways to get involved, aren't there?

The Volunteer Center website has plenty more ways for you to get involved, too! If you didn't find what you're looking for in this month's Youth Pulse, why don't you stop by www.thevolunteercenter.net and see what you can find? I'll be back next month for a Spring Edition of Youth Pulse. In the meantime, keep serving your community!

Peace,
Damien

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