



ANIMANIA 2009 VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

WHAT IS ANIMANIA?

Animania Festival, Australia's largest anime and manga event, is a celebration and exploration of the spectacular world of Japanese pop culture! The Festival presents the best Japanese popular culture has to offer under one roof including workshops, video games, stalls, competitions, all-day anime screenings, and lots more!

ANIMANIA FESTIVAL 2009 VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Animania is a large-scale project organised and managed entirely by a group of dedicated volunteer staff. But of course as in any major production, such as a movie, concert or play, nothing would be able to take its flight towards success without the aid of a strong supporting crew.

Animania is a success because of the fantastic support it has received from the general public who have volunteered their time to help run the Festival.

In 2009, Animania is again requesting your help to make the event a success. Whether you've volunteered before, are just really good typing or just love anime, our views are this: **as long as you're committed and a hard worker, we're happy to have you as a volunteer!**

➤ What is an Animania Volunteer?

Animania Volunteers are recruited and trained individuals who do a wide range of tasks during the Animania Festival Weekend period. These tasks may be specifically assigned before the event or they may be ad hoc duties assigned during the Festival itself (things can get hectic, so anything can happen!).

No monetary compensation is offered to volunteers for their contributions to the Festival.

➤ **What are the requirements to become an Animania Volunteer?**

All prospective volunteers must complete the online **Animania Volunteer Program Registration Form plus attend and participate in all training sessions** to qualify as an official member of volunteer staff at Animania 2009. This program was developed to ensure that all Animania Volunteers receive sufficient information and training to assist with the operation of the Festival from setup and packdown through to providing good customer service to Festival visitors. This is to promote a good atmosphere and ensure that a safe and enjoyable time will be had by all.

The Animania Volunteer Program involves **two training sessions**, for which *attendance is compulsory*. These sessions are spread out over the months preceding the Festival and you will be kept up-to-date about sessions via email, so it is essential that you provide a working email address when you sign up.

As part of the program, **you will be assigned to a team** based on your preferences at sign-up. You will work with this team throughout the training sessions and during the Festival itself, so please choose carefully. If you find it hard to choose a section, then we generally recommend that you select the one you have the most interest in, eg. if you like playing video games, then select Games.

Depending on which team you are assigned to, you may also have to attend extra training sessions to ensure you are fully trained for that particular area, or a workshop session to help build materials for the section.

Since Animania Volunteers are usually the first point of contact for attendees, it would also help if you have a positive, friendly attitude. Previous experience with customer service is favourable, but not necessary.

➤ **Are there any restrictions to becoming an Animania Volunteer?**

Unfortunately yes. In 2009, all Animania Volunteers:

- must be the age of 18 years or older,
- must be able to participate in both the Saturday AND Sunday of the Festival,
- must complete all necessary training sessions, and
- must abide by the 2009 Code Of Conduct for Volunteers and also the 2009 Terms and Conditions for General Public, which can be found as separate documents on the website.

Please also understand that if you are selected to participate as a Volunteer and you do not abide by the Codes of Conduct/Terms and Conditions or miss a core training session Animania Festival organising staff reserve the right to dismiss you from the program.

➤ **Ok, so what do *I* get from being an Animania Volunteer?**

There are lots of perks to being a Volunteer at Animania Festival, the main one being of course that all Volunteers gain **free entry** into the Festival. But don't be mistaken into thinking that you'll be working so hard you won't see any part of the Festival! All Volunteers will be given adequate breaks to see and even participate in their favourite events. We're all there to have *fun* after all!

One of the key priorities of the organising team too is to take good care of the Volunteers during the Festival period, so you'll also be **provided with meals, snacks and drinks** to make sure you keep up those valuable energy levels. Subsidised accommodation may also be available for those who live far distances from Sydney and are keen to volunteer.

It's also all about the experience and personal growth! As part of the program, you'll be receiving hands-on training and at the end of the program will receive a **Certificate of Participation** that recognises academic and career relevant skills, such as Leadership and Interpersonal Skills.

On top of all this, you also get to meet and work with lots of other people with similar interests in the process! We promise you it's **a whole lot of fun!**

➤ **I've never volunteered before... and you "organising people" sound scary.**

We're not! We promise. We're just very dedicated people. But at the end of the day, we're ordinary people like yourself – volunteers. And we look out for all the supporting staff! There is no "inner circle" that you have to break through, you won't just get stuck feeling awkward and alone, nor will it matter if you feel like "you don't have any skills" – that's what training is for! Just remember that all you have to do is chip in and all that takes is **a little bit of confidence** 😊.

Also, while the training program may be a serious thing, we try to make sure you have fun! These training sessions will get you ready and pumped for the Festival, and show you that **becoming an Animania Volunteer is a fantastic experience all on its own** separate to just attending the Festival.

➤ **Alright I'm interested! What do I do to become a Volunteer?**

To register your interest as an Animania Volunteer, all you need to do is complete the online form.

In 2009, we are interested in getting to know a little more about you from the very start, so there will be some extra questions than in previous years (and some will be optional). These will better inform us about who you are (rather than just how old you are and where you live). Answering these questions should take roughly half an hour, but can take longer depending on your answers. Ultimately the goal is to help us to get to know you better, so please take your time and answer the questions honestly.

Finally, please be advised that due to training requirements for the Festival, you will not be able to sign up as a Volunteer on the day of the Festival.

If you have any further enquiries about volunteering, please feel free to contact us by emailing:

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**Thank you for your interest and taking the time to read this pack.
Animania wouldn't be possible without You!**