



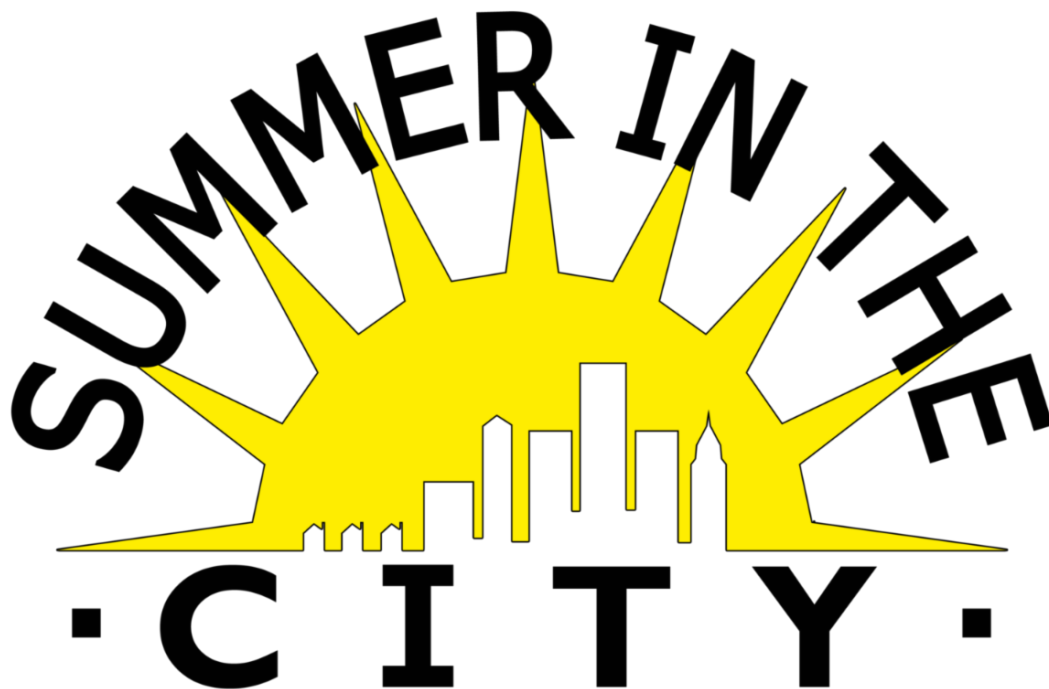
*Connecting Volunteers and Agencies*

*Celebrating 33 Years  
Expert Placement  
Personal Service*

---

***Caring & Connecting Newsletter #20***

---



Dear Friend,

Summer is here and volunteering in New York City is sizzling! The Volunteer Referral Center wants to help you find that special way to be engaged and make a difference.

This summer you could catch a film, enjoy a symphony, or have a day at the park, all while supporting great causes. Help your neighbors walk their pets, or help a new American settle into the city. The Volunteer Referral Center can help you make a connection while contributing to your community. You'll have fun, too!

Organizations featured in this, the 20th edition of our [Caring & Connecting Newsletter](#), include:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New York Asian Film Foundation</li><li>• Catholic Charities of New York</li><li>• Lumen Philharmonia</li><li>• Lenox Hill Neighborhood House</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brooklyn Botanical Gardens</li><li>• The Friends of Governors Island</li><li>• Visiting Neighbors</li><li>• Sunnyside Community Center</li></ul> |
|--|--|

If you volunteer, please mention that you heard about the opportunity from the VRC.

If you'd like to explore more possibilities this summer, VRC's offices are now open for in-person and virtual interviews. Using our comprehensive and personalized process, VRC will meet you where you are and match you with one of our 300 nonprofit partner agencies. VRC can help find the right volunteer opportunity for you.

Call us at (212) 889-4805 or [visit our website](#) and set up your free appointment.

Enjoy your summer!

Deborah McCandless, President

Carolyn Ng, Executive Director

*Volunteers Are The ❤️ Of New York City*



Please consider [supporting us](#) to help ensure that VRC continues to perform its vital role as a volunteer pipeline, connecting and counseling individuals and groups who want to serve.

[DONATE](#)

# New York Asian Film Foundation



Website: <https://www.nyaff.org>

**The New York Asian Film Foundation Inc.** is America's premier 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the exhibition and appreciation of Asian film culture in all its forms, with year-round festivals and programs, and a view to building bridges between Asia and America.

The New York Asian Film Foundation's flagship event is the annual **New York Asian Film Festival (NYAFF)**. This year's showcase, the 20th anniversary of the festival, **will be held from the 15th through the 31st of July at Film at Lincoln Center**. The festival will feature U.S. and international premieres of the best new Asian films of the 2022 season, Q & A with filmmakers, retrospective screenings of classic films, and more!

Volunteers will have the opportunity to attend screenings in exchange for their essential part in making the festival happen.

## Key responsibilities:

- Documenting festival's red carpet and Q&A events
- Capturing portraits of incoming talent
- Editing photos and making them available for publication
- Shifts will be approximately six hours for a minimum of 3 days

## Qualifications:

- Full vaccination (incl. booster) against COVID-19
- Competency with photo editing software and a personal laptop
- Portfolio of past professional work preferred
- Experience with event photography preferred

## **Hospitality Volunteer**

The hospitality department is in charge of transporting the festival's esteemed guests to and from airports, hotels, and the festival's venues.

Hospitality team members are needed for the festival's 2022 season from July 12th till July 31st. Potential candidates must have much availability between 9am and 6pm, and familiarity with any Asian languages is a plus.

## **Festival Volunteers**

The annual New York Asian Film Festival is looking for volunteers interested in supporting Asian filmmaking this summer!

Key Responsibilities:

- Full vaccination (incl. booster) against COVID-19
  - Greeting and actively interacting with guests at the venue's front desk
  - Selling festival merchandise and distributing tickets for special guests
  - Handing out and collecting raffle tickets and Audience Award ballots
- Crowd control and ushering Running microphones for Q & A events
  - Answering guest questions about screenings and show times
  - Light cleanup after receptions
  - A minimal commitment to work three full shifts (approx. two screenings), across 3 days

For more information about these volunteer opportunities, please click here: <https://www.nyaff.org/careers>

To apply to be a Volunteer, send an email with why you are interested in volunteering to [volunteer@nyaff.org](mailto:volunteer@nyaff.org). Feel free to drop us an email with any questions you may have!

Contact: Ailin Zhou [volunteer@nyaff.org](mailto:volunteer@nyaff.org)

---



# Catholic Charities of New York



Website: <https://catholiccharitiesny.org>

**Catholic Charities** helps solve the problems of all New Yorkers in need — non-Catholics and Catholics alike. We rebuild lives and touch almost every human need promptly, locally, day in and day out, always with compassion and dignity. Catholic Charities helps your neighbors, as you would like to be helped if your family were in need.

## **Refugee Resettlement**

The Refugee Resettlement department of Catholic Charities Community Services provides assistance to refugees, asylees, SIVs, Cuban/Haitian entrants, victims of trafficking, and unaccompanied minors from diverse backgrounds. The department offers case management, employment-based, and educational services that help clients feel secure in their new community.

To further help us with this goal, we are looking to bring on volunteers who are interested in engaging in our office functions while interacting one-on-one with clients to help them work towards self-sufficiency. Volunteers are able to work with a diverse, multicultural staff and client population, gain insights into the challenges that refugees/asylees face, provide a service to the office that is integral in the resettlement process, and learn more about non-profit programming and management.

**More Info:** Volunteer hours are normally Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm. Hours/shifts can be flexible according to volunteer's schedule and availability. Required commitment of 4+ hours per week for a minimum of three months. Located in Lower Manhattan on Maiden Lane.

## **How to Apply:**

To apply, email your resume to [Jeremy.Nicholson@catholiccharitiesny.org](mailto:Jeremy.Nicholson@catholiccharitiesny.org) with "Refugee Resettlement Volunteer Application" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing, rolling basis. (A background check is required for all volunteers)

Jeremy Nicholson, Volunteer and Donations Coordinator  
Phone: 303-818-7363  
Email: [Jeremy.Nicholson@catholiccharitiesny.org](mailto:Jeremy.Nicholson@catholiccharitiesny.org)

Responsibilities:

- Develop client resumes
  - Assist in job applications
  - Facilitate workshops and orientations
  - Accompany clients to appointments
- Perform mock interviews and interview preparation
  - Tutor in computer basics and employment readiness
  - Conduct research on education, housing, mental health, and other resources available in NYC
  - Assist in administrative tasks

**Preserving Housing Administration Assistant**

The Preserving Housing department is looking for someone who enjoys administrative tasks to help with important projects this summer!

You will organize and file case folders for processing, track inventory, and move boxes (at least 20 lbs.). You will need to have attention to detail, enjoy using Excel to track information, and be at least 18 years old. The schedule is 3 hours once a week and very flexible. End date is September 30th.

**Location:** Kennedy Center, Harlem 34 W 134th St. New York, NY 10037

**Contact:** Kimberly Olund [kimberly.olund@catholiccharitiesny.org](mailto:kimberly.olund@catholiccharitiesny.org) 646-660-4487

**Virtual Wednesday Wake Up Facilitator**

The Wednesday Wake Up Facilitator will lead Older Adults in a morning discussion, covering anything from current events to movies and more!

What you will do:

- Lead group discussions in the morning (9 am - 10 am)
- Establish ground rules for discussion
- Prepare materials for the group
- Facilitate discussion to ensure all older adults are participating
- Ensure everyone is included and a part of the discussion

**Food Pantry Volunteers**

Catholic Charities needs volunteers for their food pantries in the Bronx and on the Lower East Side. [Follow this link and search FOOD PANTRY for more details.](#)

**For more information and opportunities click here**

**Contact:** Kimberly Olund [kimberly.olund@catholiccharitiesny.org](mailto:kimberly.olund@catholiccharitiesny.org) 646-660-4487

---

# Lumen Philharmonia



Website: [www.lumenphilharmonia.com/](http://www.lumenphilharmonia.com/)

**Lumen Philharmonia** is a nonprofit organization that helps the patients at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital by holding fundraising concerts and offering free tickets to cancer survivors. Lumen is composed of passionate musicians who are led by conductor Samuel Kardos.

## Online Fundraising Volunteer

- Introduce fundraising ideas and help to implement them with the executive director
- will meet online with executive director 2 to 3 times weekly for 30 minutes to 1 hour

## Online Media Director Volunteer

- Manage social media accounts, advertising, fundraising campaigns, and press releases
- will meet online 1 to 2 times weekly with executive director for 30 minutes to 1 hour

## **For more information, contact:**

Samuel Cardoso / [samuelkardos995@gmail.com](mailto:samuelkardos995@gmail.com) / 347-597-0383

---

# Lenox Hill Neighborhood House



Website: [www.lenoxhill.org](http://www.lenoxhill.org)

**Lenox Hill Neighborhood House** was founded in 1894 as a free kindergarten for immigrants and is among the oldest settlement houses in the nation. We to this day educate children, feed hungry neighbors, care for the elderly, advocate for vulnerable individuals and provide critical, comprehensive services to immigrants and low-income New Yorkers.

## Front Desk Reception Volunteer-Older Adult Center

- Greet members and visitors with a warm welcome
- Distribute monthly activity calendar, menu, and meal tickets
- Check-in members for meals using hand-held scanner
- Assist members with signing-in for activities and completing COVID screening forms as needed
- Provide accurate information regarding Center activities and policies in a clear, professional manner
- Answer phones and transfer calls to the appropriate staff person

## Computer Technology Volunteer-Older Adults Center

- One-to-one training
- Computer Lab: 10 am - noon, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

## Meal Service Volunteer-Older Adult Center

- Assist the Food Services staff with preparing the tray for meal delivery during mealtime
- Communicate any food allergy or special nutrition needs to kitchen staff
- Use active listening skills such as maintaining eye contact and acknowledging the member's concerns while maintaining professional demeanor
- Maintain an alert and welcoming attitude even during times of low activity

[Click here to apply](#)

[Click here for the Lenox Hill Volunteer Brochure](#)

**For more information contact:**

Anthony Snowden or Ramona Gross / [asnowden@lenoxhill.org](mailto:asnowden@lenoxhill.org) / [rgross@lenoxhill.org](mailto:rgross@lenoxhill.org) / 212-218-0487

---

# Brooklyn Botanical Gardens



Website: <https://www.bbg.org/>

Are you a nature lover who enjoys engaging with children? Would you like to share your curiosity about plants and nature with your community in a beautiful outdoor setting?

## **Become a Summer 2022 Discovery Docent at Brooklyn Botanic Garden!**

Discovery Docents lead activities for visitors in our Discovery Garden, a one-acre space for children to explore plants and ecosystems through hands-on play and scientific investigations.

Commit to one three-hour shift each week for the duration of a season. This position requires a one-day training session and BBG conducts a brief interview with all applicants to ensure they are a good fit.

No prior knowledge is necessary—all that's needed is an interest in nature, a willingness to grow and learn, and a friendly team attitude. Join an enthusiastic group of young adults, seniors, career changers, and students who are passionate about sharing nature with the community. [Click here to become a Discovery Docent](#), and [here for more BBG opportunities](#).

**For more information:** Karen Wylie [kwylie@bbg.org](mailto:kwylie@bbg.org) 718-623-7284.

---

# The Friends of Governors Island



Website: [www.govisland.com](http://www.govisland.com)

**Governors Island** is a 172-acre island in the heart of New York Harbor. Just minutes from Lower Manhattan and the Brooklyn waterfront by ferry, the Island is a popular and unique destination with an award-winning park complemented by dozens of historic buildings, year-round educational and cultural facilities, a rich arts and culture program and 22-acre National Monument managed by the National Park Service.

## **Island Ambassador**

Want to share your enthusiasm about Governors Island with other visitors and help build a community of supporters? Island Ambassadors:

- Serve as a friendly, helpful and informative resource for visitors around the Island
- Answer visitors' questions about the Island's events and attractions
- Provide directions to visitors to navigate around the Island
- Help staff the Island's welcome center and info desk

## **Tour Guide**

Love Governors Island and want to share your enthusiasm with other visitors? Tour Guides:

- Lead in-depth public walking tours (approximately one hour in length)
- Learn the Island's history and stay up to date on current programming and future plans
- Answer visitors' questions about the Island's programming and attractions

## **Governors Gardener**

Got a green thumb? As a Gardening Volunteer, you will assist the Trust for Governors Island Horticulture Staff in caring for the Island's sprawling meadows, young forest groves, ornamental flowerbeds and landscaped hillsides. Governors Gardeners:

- Perform seasonal gardening tasks including planting, pruning, weeding, watering, raking, mulching and transplanting (all require ability to bend, lift, and kneel)
- Learn to identify and remove invasive plants
- Create a catalogue of Island biodiversity by photographing and documenting animal and plant life on the Island
- Serve as a friendly, helpful and informative resource for visitors

**[Click here to apply](#)**

**Contact:** Jackie Garcia / 646-832-6647 / [jgarcia@friendsgi.org](mailto:jgarcia@friendsgi.org)

---



# Visiting Neighbors



<https://www.visitingneighbors.org/home>

**Visiting Neighbors** enables anyone over the age of 60 to remain a vital part of the New York community. Through programs of "neighbors helping neighbors," volunteers--supported by Visiting Neighbors' professional staff--help older adults with physical independence and quality of life at home.

## Shop & Escort

For a senior, crossing New York City's busy streets can be an overwhelming challenge. Our volunteers help seniors make trips to the grocery store or pharmacy. When the weather is bad, or the senior is not up to a trip outside, volunteers can go shopping for them. We escort seniors to medical appointments to provide them with both a steady arm to lean on and emotional support. On nice days, our volunteers may walk outside with seniors for exercise, fresh air and companionship.

## Therapeutic Walking

Volunteers take some of the more ambulatory seniors out for a walk and spend a short time sitting on a park bench, weather permitting. The use of PPE (donated, purchased and hand-made PPE) is provided by staff.

## Special Skills

Do you have special skills to share? Extra help is always welcome, including (but not limited to):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art, graphic design</li><li>• Computer skills</li><li>• Fund raising</li><li>• Marketing/PR</li><li>• Music</li><li>• Office help</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Photography</li><li>• Recreation, crafts</li><li>• Special projects and events (holiday gift delivery, street fairs, etc.)</li><li>• Writing</li></ul> |
|---|--|

An application, an interview, and two references are required. Call Howie Square at **(212) 260-6200** with questions as you get your paperwork prepared.

**[Click here to complete the application](#)**



# Sunnyside Community Services



Website: <https://www.scsny.org/about-us>

**Sunnyside Community Services** enriches lives and strengthens communities through services and engagement for individuals at all ages, beginning with those most in need.

## **Pet Pals**

Help homebound seniors and their caregivers to provide basic care for household pets and companionship for the family. Volunteers walk dogs, shop for pet supplies, take pets to the vet, and more.

## **Youth Services**

Provide tutoring and assistance with homework or educational enrichment activities. SCS youth programs serve young people in pre-school through college.

## **Senior Services**

Assist in preparing or serving meals in the [senior center](#), or teach a class on a topic that interests you. Help screen seniors for benefits and entitlement programs, or provide assistance in our adult day services program for cognitively or physically impaired seniors.

## **Administrative Support**

Help all of SCS' programs by providing assistance with essential administrative tasks such as filing and data entry.

Note: SCS engages volunteers age 15 and up. All volunteers of SCS programs must be vaccinated against COVID-19 or receive weekly testing.

**[Click here for more information and to apply](#)**

**Contact:** Emma Finn - 718-784-6173 ext. 510 / [efinn@scsny.org](mailto:efinn@scsny.org)

---



## *Need More Ideas?*

The Volunteer Referral Center has been helping New Yorkers of all ages find great volunteer opportunities for 33 years. With over 300 partner agencies, VRC will guide you to a perfect match.



**To schedule a free appointment sign here**

**Click here** to check out our previous Caring & Connecting newsletters for more volunteer opportunities.



[Share This Email](#)

Volunteer Referral Center | 161 Madison Avenue, Suite 5SW, New York, NY 10016 | 212-889-4805 |  
[www.volunteer-referral.org](http://www.volunteer-referral.org) | [info@volunteer-referral.com](mailto:info@volunteer-referral.com)

Copyright © 2022 Volunteer Referral Center. All Rights Reserved.

Follow us for more:

