

Volunteer Recognition

"As Vice President Student Activities and Development, part of my job is ensuring that all students have to opportunity to leave university with both a degree, and also that bit extra that makes you stand out from the crowd. Working well as part of a team, communicating effectively with others, motivating people - standard interview questions that employers want a real practical answer to how you have demonstrated these skills". Matt Lamb Vice President (Student Activities and Development 2010-2011)

Here in The Guild we recognize the hard work and dedication of all of our student volunteers through our recognition scheme and a number of awards. Below are just a few ways you can showcase your volunteering to prospective employers.

Certificates of Recognition

Volunteering Hours Certificates

On request you can receive a certificate showing the hours that you have volunteered, which is a great way to show the time and commitment that you have made to perspective employers. In 2010-2011 a total of 36,000 volunteering hours were submitted by students.

Volunteering hours can include any time spent travelling to and from the activity location, attending training or meetings, planning and coordinating events and activities, buying resources, making phone calls or sending e-mails on behalf of your project/group and of course any volunteering itself. This includes both volunteering completed in the UK and abroad.

Submitting your Hours

To start to build up your hours you will need to firstly register as a volunteer if you're not registered already, by completing a 'Volunteer Registration Form'. Then download the 'Volunteering Timesheet Form' and e-mail it to volunteering@guild.bham.ac.uk. At any time you can request a total of the hours you have accumulated so far or a Volunteering Hours Certificate.

Prizes

For a limited time only, to congratulate you for your hard work, when you accumulate over 100 hours you can receive a mug as a prize. Bronze Mugs -100 Hours, Silver Mugs-200 Hours, Gold Mugs -300.

Vinspired Awards



The vinspired awards recognise the time you commit, the skills you develop and the difference you make through your volunteering. The scheme has been designed to boost your CV by showing employers, colleges; universities and others clear evidence of what you've achieved as a volunteer. It has already won backing from high-profile business leaders, such as Martha Lane Fox, Karren Brady and Dragon's Den star James Caan.

Any volunteer aged 16-25 in England can apply for one of two vinspired awards simply by keeping a record of their volunteering online:

- [vfifty](#), gained from completing 50 hours of volunteering in your local community . [Find out how to apply for a vfifty.](#)
- [vimpact](#) achieved by doing a further 100 hours volunteering. [Find out how to apply for a vimpact award.](#)

www.vinspired.com

Formal Accreditation

Personal Skills Award (PSA)



The Personal Skills Award (PSA) is the University's award winning employability programme for undergraduate students. Celebrated by the Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR) and endorsed by a range of employers, the PSA can enable you to develop, recognise and articulate your skills effectively in preparation for the graduate job market.

The Guild supports a wide range of activities to enable students to evidence all of their extra-curricular activities through the PSA Award scheme. For more information on the PSA Scheme go to <http://www.as.bham.ac.uk/psa/points.shtml>

Awards and Recognition Events

The Gold Awards



Volunteering England's Gold Award is the only national student volunteering award that recognises Achievement, Dedication and Leadership within Further and Higher Education. The Gold Award is a prestigious mark of excellence in student volunteering and is open to all Guild Volunteers.

Nominations open in the second term and winners are selected by a panel, and presented at an award ceremony in June.

2011 Winners were:

Category of Leadership	Hannah Ewens (Sports) and Abigail McIntosh (Links)
Category of Achievement	Students in Free Enterprise Group and Nightline
Category of Dedication	Carnival Rag (2010) SMPS

The Guild Awards

Is an evening to celebrate, recognise and reflect on the success of all of the Guild's members and groups including student activists, Societies, Student Led Volunteering Projects, Volunteers, Resident's Associations, Guild Councillors, and paid roles within the Guild such as Student Mentors, Community Wardens and Student staff. Awards include:

- Most Improved Group
- Best Event
- Community Impact
- Outstanding Individual Contribution
- Outstanding Society
- Outstanding Resident's Association
- Outstanding Volunteering Project
- Outstanding Student Rep
- Outstanding Student Staff Member
- Outstanding New Student Group
- Outstanding New Idea



Nominations open in the second term and winners are selected by a panel, and presented at an award ceremony in March.

Look out for more information on how to nominate closer to the awards.