

# Soziokulturelles Zentrum Die VILLA

## General description:

Consolidating the commitment and the creative potential of the greatest possible number of individuals is one of the mainstays of "Die VILLA." Volunteer activities and services play a correspondingly important role in many areas like within cultural events, in the media laboratory, the school social work or the bicycle service station. A large number of activities would be impossible without volunteer help. Thus, the social and cultural center "Die VILLA" has long occupied itself with different models of youth volunteer service. By their help we want to motivate more young people with fewer opportunities from Leipzig to shape their own ideas and put them into practice.

Its intensive involvement in the European Voluntary Service program is part of this: since 2003 "Die VILLA" has been a host and sending organization in the program. The establishment of a flat-sharing community for young people doing voluntary service right in the rooftop of the house was a further innovation.

The social and cultural center "Die VILLA" offers volunteers the opportunity to gain experience in independent work as well as team work, conceptual thinking, communication, and other fields chosen by the volunteers themselves. They work together with full-time employees, but also with other German and European volunteers and trainees. The volunteers are on the one hand integrated into regular activities (according to their personal interests and abilities), on the other hand they are given the opportunity to independently carry out their own project ideas.

Leipzig is located in the northwest of the Free State of Saxony. The city and its 500,000 inhabitants became known throughout the world in the fall of 1989 as the center of the peaceful revolutionary movement in East Germany. It is home to the second oldest university in Germany as well as serving as an important trade fair center. Around 1 million people visit Leipzig every year, enjoying the city's lively atmosphere and diverse cultural offerings. The volunteer will stay in a living community with up to six other EVS-volunteers.

## EVS in our media laboratory:

- a) Support in the preparation, carrying out and evaluation of media-paedagogical projects like
  - weekly Integrative Photo-Workshop (basics of photography for people with and without disability)
  - weekly support of the "Filmklub" (analyse movies and create own movies from the idea to the finished film with children and youths)
  - projects of photography, video-taking, animated films and multi-media with children and youths during the school holidays
  - school projects (photography, *web 2.0*/social media))
  - MädchenMachenMedien (weekly media course especially for young girls)
- b) Support in the preparation, carrying out and evaluation of an international youth exchange in case one will be carried through
- c) possibility of taking part in courses and workshops in the Media Laboratory

**All volunteers:**

The volunteers help with public relations and office work in the VILLA information office and regarding the EVS programme (like asking reports from current volunteers and putting them on the website, bringing information material to certain places in town, supporting the EVS-coordinator at information events). They can also have a look in other working fields of the VILLA and support them. On top of it, all volunteers have the opportunity to independently organize a project of their choice as part of their voluntary service. **In addition, there will be realised several project days towards topics of solidarity in europe / participation / social projects for all EVS volunteers. The volunteers have to take part, learn and to realise an own social idea. They should also inform about social project in their homecountry and present it to the others. Furthermore, volunteers are asked to make a presentation about his/her EVS and / or other mobility possibilities in Europe in a school class.**

Volunteers are also free to make other additional projects. The type and size of the project the volunteers can choose themselves. The VILLA offers appropriate ideas and help.

**Selection process:**

Please complete the online questionnaire you find on our page. We collect all applications until the deadline, then all applications that are complete will be forwarded to the responsables of the media laboratory and VillaKeller who decide about the candidate. The selection process takes 1-2 months. You will get an answer during or latest after 2 months.

**Selection criteria:**

Volunteers should be interested in getting to know the work in a big socio-cultural centre and be open to get into contact with people from different ages, world views and religions. All should like to work with children and youth. Basic knowledge of German is required. For the EVS in media laboratory the volunteer should be not younger than 22 years and interested in media pedagogic work and over all working with different media programmes mostly on the computer.

**Link to VILLA:** [villa-leipzig.de/](http://villa-leipzig.de/)

**Link to VILLA media laboratory:** [medienwerkstatt-leipzig.de/](http://medienwerkstatt-leipzig.de/)

**Link to VILLA Keller:** [villakeller.de/startseite/](http://villakeller.de/startseite/)