

## What is CARITAS VIENNA KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK?

CARITAS VIENNA counsels, accompanies and supports members of our society who are currently finding themselves in a challenging situation, who are suffering from illness or the consequences of an unfortunate incident or a catastrophe. CARITAS VIENNA assists regardless of the social, national or religious background of the people in need. CARITAS VIENNA runs various departments focusing on different social challenges. One department is the so-called DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY WORK focusing on prevention and ongoing support for people at social risk. The various projects of this department accompany housing units, foster neighbourhood helping networks, support volunteering and tackle social exclusion through community arts. One of the projects run by the department for community work is a culture centre called KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK.

KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK is located at the arts and culture area BROTFABRIK WIEN (a former bread factory, [www.brotfabrik.wien](http://www.brotfabrik.wien)) in the Viennese district "Favoriten" – a borough situated on the outskirts of Vienna and facing various social challenges. There are galleries and ateliers based on the premises of Brotfabrik Wien, who do not focus their activities on the residents living in the surroundings (since they long for financially strong customers who live in other areas of the city), KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK aims at linking BROTFABRIK WIEN to the social housing complexes neighbouring the area. In addition to this specific aim, various projects based at KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK – e.g. COMMUNITY COOKING, LERNCAFÉ, SUPERAR – focus on easing social tensions prevalent within the district by strengthening solidarity among residents, decreasing social isolation and fostering social cohesion within the neighbourhood. The initiatives offer and create space and opportunity for the residents to express and experience themselves and become aware of their potentials. KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK, however, is more than the sum of these initiatives: It's a community hub that initiates participative processes. Moreover, since KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK is located at the arts and culture area BROTFABRIK WIEN and is interested in leveraging the potential of this surroundings, KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK is addressing social issues by the means of participatory arts (at least to some extent). KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK as a whole aims at empowering the neighbourhood by activating individual and collective capabilities/capacities as well as strengthening local structures and networks.

KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK operates in a specific field that is often overlooked by stakeholders, such as city developers. The residents in the neighbourhood are observing changes taking place in front of their windows without feeling like not having a say in them. KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK



aims at opening up BROTFABRIK WIEN for the people living in the surroundings: Instead of observing, participation is offered as an alternative. KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK offers expertise where other players of the area have a blind spot.

Speaking of target groups, KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK focuses on the people living and working around BROTFABRIK WIEN. Besides building bridges between BROTFABRIK WIEN, the galleries and the residents, the project particularly focuses on the multiple social challenges that are being encountered in the area surrounding BROTFABRIK WIEN. The target groups can be divided in several sub-categories:

- population / people living in the area
- community (arts) workers & organisations
- “new” players in the area: galleries and others organisations of BROTFABRIK WIEN.

The culture centre KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK is a hub that transforms individual projects into a space of participatory processes (through art and social design) and engaging the community. The volunteers will be involved in organising different opportunities for the residents living around KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK to interact with each other. Besides supporting existing initiatives (art and craft workshops, repaircafé, playgroup, children's disco) the volunteers are also encouraged to present their own ideas which they might come up with when getting in touch with the residents.

There are many people working within KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK and who are split up into different teams. Since KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK is supposed to be more than the sum of the projects based within its walls, we have been focusing on offering possibilities for the people working at KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK to network, engage with each other and develop a sense of community. The volunteers will be involved in offering these opportunities as a kind of "feel good managers".

Several international EU funded projects (Erasmus+, Creative Europe) are implemented in and around KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK. The volunteers will be involved in supporting these programmes. The international working language in all of these projects is English, so the volunteers have the chance to be involved in research activities, the development of concepts and the communication with the international partners (possibly also participation in partner meetings). Nevertheless, the implementation of these programmes in local activities in the neighbourhood requires profound German language skills.



The current projects deal with:

- Art Mediation
- Community Narration
- Small scale performance settings
- Theatre of the Oppressed
- Participatory Video
- Participatory Radio
- Antiracism Work
- Self-representation
- Critical Thinking
- Fundamental Rights of the EU

### **Required Volunteer Profile**

People interested in community work will profit most from a deployment at KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK. An interest in (participatory) art will also be of advantage. The potential volunteers should be open to meeting other people, engaging with strangers and building relationships with the residents and visitors of KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK. We expect the volunteers to command good communication skills, to be capable of working in a team and to be open minded.

According to the interests of the volunteers in combination with already acquired abilities and skills there are several fields of action. The volunteers will find a big variety of tasks, which offer many possibilities to learn by doing. The fields of action are

- craft workshops
- decoration
- graphic design (illustrations by hand, logo design, Indesign, Illustrator)
- marketing for disadvantaged groups (improving concepts, implementation, direct outreach work)
- coordination of local volunteers
- photography and video documentation
- technical task / stage hands
- planning and implementation of exhibitions and an international conference

Moreover, as there are several international EU funded projects (Erasmus+, Creative Europe) being implemented in and around KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK, the volunteers will also be



working within these projects and their local activities. It is therefore of advantage if volunteers are interested in the topics of the current projects:

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- Community Narration
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### **Application and Selection Process**

If you are interested, you just send a CV (curriculum vitae), a motivation letter and the full details of the responsible sending organisation to Grenzenlos (application@melange.at). They will forward your documents to the hosting project (in our case to KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK) where the selection will be made.

All available placements of Grenzenlos ESC projects are open to everyone (fulfilling the general ESC criteria). However, in the selection procedure a preference is shown for candidates with fewer opportunities (gender, background etc.). You will be informed about the outcome of recruitment process conforming to the set out application deadlines (more: Melange Website).

During the selection process, we will explain in detail the indicated fields of action to the candidates and discuss whether some of them fit into their expectations and to the learning possibility they are seeking for. Together we will decide on the exact tasks they will take on depending on their interests and competencies.

We definitely envisage involving participants who face situations that make their participation in the activities more difficult. Since the fields of action are diverse, we are convinced that it is possible to match the competencies of the candidates and their specific situation with their potential tasks at KULTURHAUS BROTFABRIK, and vice versa.