

## Markhof – Colearning Wien

### What is Markhof – Colearning Wien?

<https://markhof.wien>

„Markhof - The village in the city“ is located in an old, freshly renovated factory building of 2.200m<sup>2</sup> in central Vienna. We host a free learning centre (as an alternative to school) for around 40 kids and teenagers; a seminar centre with about 3-5 events taking place per week; a creative centre for arts and crafts, including cooking and a food-coop. We also host a co-working space, where about 20 people working in small start-ups or as self-employed entrepreneurs share a lofty office space, networking included.

“Colearning“ is our general philosophy, stressing self-awareness and self-empowerment, and continuous learning in all walks of life. We believe in taking responsibility for ourselves, but also in discovering new ways of doing things together, in inventing new forms of community that are appropriate to our modern urban environment. If “it takes a village to raise a child“, as the saying goes, then we are aiming to create a physical and social environment, where children can experience adults at work, and learn by being integrated into real-life activities.

Half the Markhof team lives on site, and there is always somebody there, something going on, and something to be done! It’s a very intense and lively place, and you are welcome to join in!

### Proposed activities

You will be integrated into whatever is going on at any particular time. Often it will be preparing rooms for seminars, joining the catering team in preparing food, meeting the seminar guests, and cleaning up afterwards. There are a lot of householdy things to be done, as we care you our rooms ourselves – and we have a lot of rooms! several kitchens, too. Four mornings a week we cook with the children for the children and the team members, and you can join that team. Or go outside with some of the kids and be with them when they play in the courtyard. Depending on your language and computer skills, you can also join us in some of our office work and get a glimpse of all the organisational matters that need to be taken of in order to have a seminar centre up and running. Some of the seminars and events are open to all, so you can sometimes sit in and participate in those as well.

### Volunteer profile and recruitment process

Generally, you should be open and flexible, ready for the adventure of being in a place full of people and activity, and enjoy that adventure for its own sake. You should have some command of German, and be willing to move towards a very good command in the first months of your stay. Depending on the situation and your interests, you could learn a lot about organisational issues, gain office skills, or gather experience with alternative pedagogical approaches, or with group dynamics and community life.



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. They will forward your papers to the hosting project (in our case: Markhof – Colearning Wien) where the selection will be made.

All available placements of Grenzenlos EVS projects are open to everyone (fulfilling the general EVS 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 applying deadlines (more: Melange Website).