



**MEDIA RELEASE                      IMMEDIATE                      27<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2013**  
**Colour Our Youth - National Youth Week**

This year, National Youth Week is being celebrated across Australia from the 5<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> of April. Interchange Outer East contribute to the festivities by hosting 'Colour Our Youth', an afternoon of fun and activities for local youth, on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> April.

National Youth Week (NYW) is the largest celebration of young people in Australia with thousands of young people, nationwide, aged 12-25 getting involved in activities, projects and events each year. The theme for National Youth Week 2013 is 'BE ACTIVE. BE HAPPY. BE YOU' and Interchange Outer East is hosting an event which embraces all those catch phrases.

Last year Interchange Outer East hosted the 'Brighten the Blues' festival for the National Youth Week, which was planned and hosted by many of our youth age volunteers and staff. The event was a huge success, with the highlight being the giant paint fight at the end of the day in which everyone who attended took part.

Due to the huge success of 'Brighten The Blues' and the positive message that it put out to local youth, Interchange Outer East decided to 'do it again'. An application was put in for a National Youth Week Grant, a committee was formed and IOE's youth volunteers started working on ideas for this year's festival. Due to the popularity of the activity, the youth committee decided to go with another giant paint fight to be held at the same venue as 2012.

This years NYW festival has been named 'Colour Our Youth' and it promises to be even bigger and better than last year's event. There will be local musicians playing on a trailer stage, a theatre workshop run by Misfits youth theatre company, Jess Barlow's magazine launch for the Brainwash Project, interactive stalls, an adult sized jumping castle, sports and games, hot and cold food and drinks, and show bags for everyone who attends .. with the finale being the all in massive paint fight.

The event will be held at Milpera Reserve in Wantirna on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April from 11am until 3pm. Everybody is encouraged to wear white for maximum effect when they participate in the paint fight at the end.

Interchange Outer East volunteer coordinators will also be doing a bit of recruiting throughout the afternoon. "We hope lots of young people from our local community see what fun our volunteers have and what a fantastic organisation Interchange is – and will want to get some volunteering action themselves!" said Jess Van Arendonk, IOE volunteer co-coordinator "hopefully we will see lots of friendly faces from the event on activities in the near future".

For more information about the event email [colourouryouth@hotmail.com](mailto:colourouryouth@hotmail.com) or to enquire about volunteering with Interchange Outer East, contact Jess or Marcelo on 9758 5522 or [volunteers@ioe.org.au](mailto:volunteers@ioe.org.au)

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