

# BE CONSUL GENERAL FOR THE DAY

Celebrating International Women's Day 2023



## Why 'Embrace Equity'?

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023 THEME

**#EmbraceEquity** challenges us to go beyond equality and acknowledge that people don't begin life in the same place. Circumstances may make it more difficult for people to achieve the same goals. The aim of equity is to change systemic and structural barriers that get in the way of people's ability to thrive. While *equality-based* solutions to social issues may rely on there being no difference in policies and services, *equity-based* solutions adapt services and policies according to people's diverse lived experiences.



Equality



Equity

Thus, for International Women's Day 2023, the British Consulate-General in Melbourne will be offering the chance for young women, including trans+ and non-binary, to experience being a Consul General. Working alongside a team in our office in Melbourne, the winners of our easy-to-enter competition will get a 'behind the scenes' insight into what life is like in a diplomatic mission and the chance to learn more about key issues, from trade to climate action.

**WHAT:** A day shadowing the diplomatic life of a foreign diplomat

**WHO:** Young women, trans+ and non-binary identifying

**AGE:** 16-22 years old

**WHERE:** Consulate-General Office in Melbourne CBD

**PARTICIPATING CONSULATES:** United Kingdom

**DEADLINE:** Friday 3rd March 2023



SCAN TO APPLY

# #CG4aday 2022 Winners

## TESTIMONY BY ALEX AND JESS

### Alex -

Consul-General for the Day was such an incredible opportunity. Our day started before the sun was up and ended well into the night. Throughout, the Consul-General, Steph Lysaght, and his office spent their time promoting business relationships between Britain and Australia and participated in general community engagement activities.

Over the course of the day I was provided with the opportunity to ask Her Excellency, Vicki Treadell, the High Commissioner what she believes the qualities of a great leader are, to hear how the Free Trade Agreement can benefit us as a society and ask Mr Lysaght about his job and how he got to where he is today.

Overall, my key takeaway from my time at the Consulate-General was that our current generation has a responsibility to innovate, create and lead, while recognising the contributions of previous generations. My experience at the British Consulate-General was both humbling and eye-opening and while I couldn't imagine living every single day as busy as the Consul-General does, I am grateful to have had this amazing experience.

In keeping with the theme, we are asking competition entries to provide short responses to the three following questions:

- Please briefly outline why you would like to be selected for this opportunity.
- Why do you think gender equity is important and who is your biggest inspiration?
- If you were Consul-General, what policy would you introduce that challenged traditional ideas about equality?

Be creative and share the opportunity with your friends; we'd love to hear your thoughts and have you for the day.

### Jess -

My experience as Consul General for the Day is a stand out and a highlight in my life thus far.

As an aspiring diplomat, I expected a fast-paced stimulating environment surrounded by inspirational individuals and the day certainly did not disappoint! Add to that a VIP breakfast at the Formula One Grand Prix and one on one conversations with the British Consul General himself the day could not have been more perfect. Alexandra and I also enjoyed a wonderful lunch with the Royal Over-Seas league and had an incredible meeting with the UK High Commissioner to Australia where I was given important advice and knowledge which I will carry with me throughout my career journey.

My day as Consul-General was a fantastic experience which I highly recommend. I can assure you, it will go beyond your expectations.

## CONTACT US

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