

STUDY MELBOURNE FUTURE FOUNDERS PROGRAM:

Innovating International Student Experience

Tara Power, Tran Nguyen & Kennie Kurniawan



STARTSPACE
Powered by State Library Victoria

Acknowledgement to Country

State Library Victoria and Study Melbourne acknowledges the traditional lands of all the Victorian Aboriginal Clans, and their cultural practices and knowledge systems. State Library Victoria recognises that we hold traditional cultural knowledge belonging to Indigenous communities in Victoria and around the country.

We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, who have handed down these systems of practice to each new generation for millennia.



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Tara Power
Partnerships Lead
Creative Enterprise -
StartSpace powered by
State Library Victoria



Tran Nguyen
Manager,
Student Programs,
International Education
Global Victoria



Kennie Kurniawan
Future Founders
Program Manager
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State Library Victoria

Overview

Each year over 200K international students from over 170 countries come to study in Victoria

Melbourne has the highest concentration of international student residents in the country with 39% in Carlton and 38% in Melbourne CBD.

[Mitchell Institute, 2020].



Overview



- International students are a vibrant and essential part of how Victoria exists
- Invisible to a significant part of the Victorian community
- COVID made us reflect on our losses - economic and multicultural.
- We addressed a gap that was long overdue

Purpose, challenges and the big questions

- What is my purpose? My why? Where do I fit?
- The right and human need to be visible and feel valued.
- To be a part of a healthy, inclusive and innovative culture which you can contribute to.
- To have skills that help build career pathways.

Collaboration is key.

“Jobs of the future demand enterprise skills 70% more than jobs of the past.”

Critical thinking Digital literacy Presentation skills Be the Band Creativity

Source: Foundation for Young Australians

STUDY MELBOURNE #FutureFoundersFestival STARTSPACE

Why State Library Victoria and StartSpace?

- **State Library Victoria is a city landmark attracting 2.2 million visitors each year. Approximately 14% of these are international students.**
- State Library Victoria provides free access to world class facilities where students can come to study, create and connect with their peers.
- StartSpace is world class facility helping founders and entrepreneurs from all walks of life.



About StartSpace

StartSpace is a free business support service and community for early-stage entrepreneurs, powered by State Library Victoria.

- Free events, mentorship & scholarship programs
- Monthly community breakfast & networking
- Free co-working space

If you have an idea that you want to build into a business or Startup – you can start at StartSpace.



Study Melbourne – Global Victoria

Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025

- Launch global careers by attracting and nurturing talent, enhancing student employability, entrepreneurship and leadership
- Position Victoria as the top Australian jurisdiction for employability and employment outcomes for international students

Empowered Series 2022 - 2025

- Deliver innovative employability, entrepreneurship and leadership programs to international students and alumni
- Grow and showcase local and global talent to strengthen students' return on investment and graduate outcomes
- Empower students to unleash their potential through capacity building initiatives co-designed and co-delivered by students, for students.



Leadership Labs Volunteer to Lead Weekend

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Career Development Event Study Melbourne Hub Rosie Chong - Personal Branding Expert



Career Catalyst Industry Networking Event With Anu Villarosa - Director, People Experience, Pitcher Partners

Commitment to Action

- **Employ more** – Employ more international students and graduates in their fields of expertise.
- **Offer more work experience** – Facilitate international students' access to quality and relevant work experience
- **Set targets** – Make it part of your organisation's goals by setting targets
- **Remove barriers** – Identify and resolve any real or perceived barriers within the organisation
- **Share success stories** – Publicly share employment statistics and stories of success



Study Melbourne Future Founders Program

- The largest entrepreneurial program dedicated for International Students in Australia
- Student focused & outside of traditional education system
- Now in its third year, continually evolving: digital festival, livestreams & onsite





FUTURE FOUNDERS FESTIVAL

- First digital Festival in 2020 and in 2021
- November 2022 – first in-person festival. Full day at State Library Victoria - 7 sessions, interactive workshops, 16+ speakers
- Opportunity to mingle, discuss & collaborate
- Evening session with International Student Pitch Competition
- Networking & live music at the iconic Dome



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FUTURE FOUNDERS ROADSHOW

- Coming up: Ballarat, 15 March and Geelong, 22 March 2023.
- Panel of local founders & startup community
- Practical workshops
- Networking





FUTURE FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP

- \$10,000 seed funding
- Founder centric capability building through 1:1 coaching and mentoring
- Connect international students with the startup ecosystem



Meet the Scholars: Daniel Tan (Vimi)



"The program empowers us to determine our own future and not let someone else decide it for us"

Creating Scalable, Affordable and Effective Marketing Videos

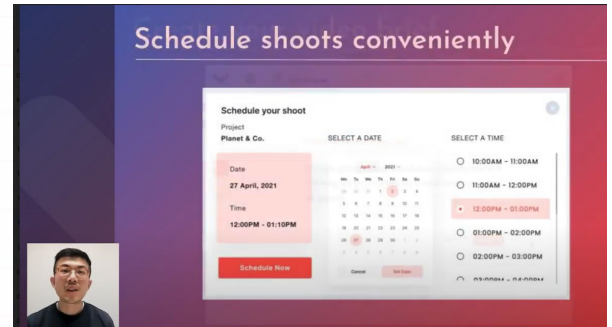
An online video production platform to empower business owners to create marketing videos that are scalable, affordable and effective.

Sign up in minutes to get your videos for as little as \$500.

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Get Started

Companies we have worked with



Meet the Scholars: Katherine Lee (Curatorial Ensemble)



*“This program has **enabled me to believe in myself** that as an international student from a minority ethnic group, **I can follow my dreams and aspirations** and find my place in society.”*

Curatorial Dialogue:
Socially Engaged Art in
Australia and China



Panel Talk

22th MAY 2021, 17:45pm - 19:15pm
(Melbourne Time)

14:45 pm - 16:15 pm
(Cambodian, Laos, Thailand & Vietnam)



Meet the Scholars: Shimroth John Thomas (Phycoforms)



“We were all able to share our experiences and struggles to not only mature our business ideas but also just have a safe space to share our thoughts.”



 VICTORIAN PREMIER'S
DESIGN AWARDS

Impact to date

- More than \$1.2M invested over 5 years
- Over 3,000 participants
- 70.5% CALD speakers (Festival 2022)
- 96% satisfaction (Festival 2022)



Advocacy and Recognition

"Programs like Future Founders work to enhance the experience of international students in Victoria and build on our state's reputation as a world-class destination to live and study."

Minister for Creative Industries, Danny Pearson

The reason why the Future Founders Program is so important, and a game changer is because it blatantly tells international students like me that we can pursue our dreams and that StartSpace and Study Melbourne are providing a safe and high-quality environment to do just that".

Daniel Tan – Pitch winner Future Founders Festival



**City of Melbourne Awards 2021 finalist:
Knowledge & Innovation category**

Q&A



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about the program





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THANK YOU

