

## Governance Procedures



## Board nomination form

Two general representative board positions and one youth representative board position are vacant as at our 2024 Annual General Meeting.

Name of candidate	Na Liu		
Nomination for: (please mark option below)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	General representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Youth representative
<input type="checkbox"/>			Māori representative
Nominated by:			
Volunteering New Zealand member organisation			
Membership organisation name:	Volunteering Canterbury		
Authorised nominator's name:	Glenda Martin, General Manager		
Authorised nominator's signature:			
This should be signed by someone with authority to do so on behalf of the organisation, eg Board Chair, or Chief Executive with delegated authority.			
Candidate consent:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I consent to my nomination to the Volunteering New Zealand board.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have attached my one-page skills and experience summary, which will be circulated to members as part of the election process.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am not disqualified to be a director		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have read and understood the <a href="#">Board Members Policy</a> .		

Na Liu

Candidate/ Nominee's signature

17/10/2024

Date

Please complete and return by email (scanned with signature) by 12pm, Monday 21 October 2024 to Volunteering New Zealand [office@volunteeringnz.org.nz](mailto:office@volunteeringnz.org.nz) - Nominations received after the deadline will not be accepted.

## Intent of Statement

I am Na Liu, an international student from China currently pursuing a Master of Applied Data Science at the University of Canterbury. My volunteering journey has been an incredible path of growth and service that continues to shape who I am today.

My commitment to volunteering began during my bachelor's degree at South-central Minzu University, where I provided one-on-one support to a hearing-impaired child in Wuhan's Hongshan Community. It was remarkable to witness the child's growth from age three to seven, teaching me the profound impact consistent volunteering can have on someone's life. My dedication led to my election as president of the Youth Volunteer Association, where I led over 100 volunteers across six different groups supporting causes from hearing-impaired children to migrant workers' families. During the challenging COVID-19 period in 2020, we adapted our services to meet Wuhan's emerging needs - from helping elderly patients navigate hospital services to organizing letter-writing campaigns for rural children. Our impact culminated in establishing a community service program for elderly residents who had lost family during the pandemic, creating meaningful connections through activities like water calligraphy and photography. Under my leadership, we conducted over 40 volunteer activities, earning the "Outstanding Volunteer Service Team" award at the university level.

Upon arriving in New Zealand, I eagerly sought opportunities to contribute to my new community. Through the Auckland University Tramping Club (AUTC), I discovered their collaboration with Forest & Bird, participating in conservation work that helps preserve New Zealand's unique ecosystems. These experiences gave me a deeper appreciation for New Zealand's commitment to environmental protection.

After moving to Christchurch, I discovered Hohepa Canterbury through a university volunteer expo. Drawing from my inherited love of gardening from my mother, I chose to volunteer at their farm. Under experienced supervision, I tend to the gardens, planting tomatoes, capsicums, and other vegetables, working alongside residents who share my enthusiasm for gardening. Every time I say "Thank you! That's a great help," I can see their quiet pride in their good work, though they might not express it directly. The farm brings me joy with every visit, where the residents' kindness and welcoming nature create a wonderful atmosphere.

One particularly touching moment stands out in my memory. I noticed a resident watching something on their laptop and went to say hello. What I found was a beautiful animated scene of a forest with a stream and a bridge, where swans and ducks swam in the water, squirrels played in the trees, and rabbits dug holes on the bank. All the creatures moved in a peaceful, harmonious loop, accompanied by the melody of "Yesterday Once More." When I asked if they knew the song, they nodded, saying it made them happy and relaxed. We sat together quietly, watching the scene and listening to the music. In that moment, we became part of that serene forest landscape, flowing like the ducks in the stream. I found myself unconsciously singing along, "Every sha-la-la-la, every wo-o-wo-o, still shines..." A profound realization washed over me in that peaceful moment - the residents have their own beautiful world, one filled with tranquility and natural harmony. It was a simple interaction that taught me how volunteering isn't just about what we give, but about the gentle moments of connection and understanding we share.

Beyond volunteering, I actively participate in university life as a course representative and member of various clubs including Skate Bird club for binary people, badminton club, and the tramp club. I believe in fully embracing the opportunities New Zealand offers, from experiencing the freedom of skateboarding to exploring the country's natural beauty through tramping.

I am deeply passionate about contributing to Volunteering New Zealand as a Youth Board member because I believe in the transformative power of volunteering - both for communities and individuals. My experience spans different cultures, demographics, and types of service, giving me a unique perspective on youth engagement in volunteering. I would be honored to use my experience, cultural awareness, and enthusiasm to help shape the future of youth volunteering in New Zealand, inspiring more young people, especially international students, to discover the rewarding journey of volunteering and create meaningful connections within their communities.