

Supporting library volunteers

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Formed in 2007, the new e-list ALIA Volunteers (AliaVols) promotes and supports the role of volunteers in enhancing the availability of information and knowledge provided by Australian libraries and information collections, through enabling libraries to access potential volunteers and the discussion of volunteering and the utilisation of volunteers. Such positions enable members, from students seeking experience whilst studying, new graduates seeking employment, to retirees with valuable knowledge, to use skills whilst providing a valuable contribution to the organisations involved.

Join AliaVols at <http://lists.alia.org.au/mailman/listinfo/aliaVOLS/>. This is an open list, it is not restricted to ALIA members.

Libraries with volunteer positions are encouraged to post to AliaVols, at e-mail aliavols@lists.alia.org.au

Voluntary positions and projects are the ones that would not be possible without volunteers – such as projects by non-commercial organisations, or the high resource needs of a non-commercial project. The group does not seek to replace employment opportunities for paid professionals or any duties for which personnel are employed, but acknowledges the significant contribution volunteers make in libraries.

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The best computer game?

The best computer game?

'Grand Theft Auto' is the best computer game?

The controversial computer game 'Grand Theft Auto San Andreas' is the best action console computer game, according to a new collection of essays published by Blackwell Publishing. Edited by Queensland academic Alan McKee, *Beautiful Things in Popular Culture* is a collection of studies of the 'best' popular culture – the best serial killer novel, pop princess, disco record, romance novelist, comic book writer and action console game, among others. Counteracting the popular perception of the 'clueless consumer', the authors focus on the ways fans and consumers measure the different cultural icons of today.

According to the study, Grand Theft Auto San Andreas is the best action console computer game because of the level of detail in the game-world, the freedom of the player to move through it, and the relationship between structured elements and free form game-play.

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