

Heidi Victoria MP

Member for Bayswater District

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National Youth Week just around the corner

Bayswater district's young people will be among many thousands of young Victorians celebrating this year's National Youth Week thanks to grants totalling \$183,000 Member for Bayswater, Heidi Victoria, announced today.

With this year's National Youth Week running from April 5-14, Mrs Victoria said Knox City Council Youth Services and Ringwood Secondary College were among 92 organisations across the state to receive funding to run local events celebrating the region's young people.

"Ringwood Secondary College will receive \$2000 to highlight Mental Health Week and Knox City Council Youth Services will receive \$2000 to facilitate the Knox Youth Film Festival – Green Foot Flicks 2013", Mrs Victoria said.

As a mother I am acutely aware of the importance of giving our young people recognition and opportunities, and National Youth Week is a great focus for this.

With this year's theme *Be active. Be Happy. Be You*, focused around youth mental health, many of the funded activities will enable young people to work with an organisation to deliver a local community-based project or event that raises awareness of depression and anxiety.

Minister for Youth Affairs Ryan Smith said in addition to Victorian Coalition Government funding, support was also being provided by the Commonwealth Government and *beyondblue*.

"I congratulate this year's successful grant recipients and look forward to the many exciting National Youth Week events organised by young people, for young people," Mr Smith said.

To see a list of National Youth Week events, go to www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au or the national website www.youthweek.com.