**Ukrainian Culture Center**

**Introduction**

The Ukrainian Cultural Center (UCC) is located side by side and operates together with Labora Workshops and the Tallinn School of Calligraphy.

The UCC provides a place where local Ukrainians can preserve their language, culture, and traditions. The organization serves as both a community center and a Sunday school for the Ukrainian Greek Catholic parish in Estonia. The center also makes it possible for Estonians and visitors from other nationalities to learn more about Ukrainian culture and diaspora.

The UCC has a wider focus on the development and protection of disappearing traditions, cultures, crafts, and endangered nature.  The uniqueness is captured in handmade books.

Since protecting ancient traditions and disappearing techniques is one of their main aims, they regularly organize workshops and courses that teach a number of different medieval arts and crafts. Courses and workshops are organized for children and adults alike in Estonian, Russian, English, and Ukrainian. They include papermaking, calligraphy, bookmaking, letterpress printing, and traditional woodwork.

The UCC organizes exhibitions to promote the ethnography of Ukraine. It participates in the Old Town Days and other similar events. The organization finds it very important that people supporting the aims of the UCC could contribute to the projects, share their knowledge and learn from our experience. The UCC is a flexible organisation, always open for new ideas and projects.

**Location**

The Ukrainian Cultural Center is housed in a beautiful 14th century building located within the medieval walls of Tallinn’s Old Town. Tallinn’s Ukrainian Catholic Church can also be found on the same grounds. The intriguing building, right alongside the city wall, is indeed medieval, but during its long history, it has always served a secular purpose. The Ukrainian congregation thoroughly renovated the building and made it unusually charming - a sacred building which seems, at once, historical and modern.

**Work tasks and proposed activities**

* Giving guided tours of the center, during which they will introduce its history and projects to visitors
* Organizing and structuring the collections
* Helping with the workshops
* Promoting the UCC (social media, taking pictures etc,)
* Maintaining the garden on the grounds of the center

The volunteer will be encouraged to start and independently work on their own project. The organization would like them to pick up one of the UCC’s many activities and develop it further, or come up with a whole new idea of their own. Assistance will be given, in necessary.

The volunteer is expected to participate in different cultural events organized by and happening in our center.

**Benefits of volunteering**

* Gaining knowledge about Ukrainian culture
* Calligraphy, paper making, book art, traditional woodwork
* Meeting many different people, interested in history and culture, which will give not only new learning opportunities but also a great intercultural experience

**Requirements for the volunteer**

* A person interested in preserving culture, art, and nature
* Strong personal motivation to work on and learn about these topics
* Eagerness to widen a horizon on art and cultural history
* Open-minded and ready to cooperate

It would be very useful if the volunteer has experience in those fields, it is however not crucial.