Renée Baldwin

**Job:** Event Stylist

**Course:** RGIT Diploma of Management

**Pay scale:** *$37,000-$76,000

**Why do it?**
“I love making something from a blank canvas, creating my own designs to make events look special and amazing. I’ve worked on some amazing concerts and gigs, in some weird sites and with pretty famous people.”

**Downers:** “Late nights. Shift work. Last minute changes.”

**Top Clients:** 50 cent, Future Music Festival, Crown Casino, Australian Fashion Awards, Aria Awards, Brownlow Medal

*payscale.com.au; Mycareer.com.au

STORY CONTINUES

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RGIT WANTS YOU

Are You Our Next Video Star?

RGIT is looking for Business, IT and English students to do video testimonials for the Institute. Are you our next video star? Join Christian, Yumi and Juliana: you’ll see their friendly faces on TVs around the campus soon doing a great video testimonial for our Hospitality courses.

Participants receive a gift voucher as thanks for their time and effort.
HERE’S HOW:
1. Email Communications Officer lisa@rgit.edu.au
2. Do a quick audition (15 minutes)
3. Do the real thing (1-2 hours)

Need a Scholarship?

Did you know that RGIT offers scholarships to help pay your fees?
Applications close MONDAY 21 APRIL, so apply fast! Criteria for selection are:
1. You’re a dedicated, committed student!
2. You’ve completed Year 10, or equivalent.

The Scholarship Committee decides how much RGIT will contribute to your fee payments. You need to provide proof of your academic commitment and testimonials from teachers, so don’t leave it until the last minute.
Submit your application with a cover letter and supporting documentation through our website www.rgit.edu.au (go to About Us/RGIT Scholarship).
**RGIT NEWS**

**Want to Play Pool?**

There is a pool table in your recreation and lunch area (the basement) for you to enjoy.

To access equipment for the pool table, leave your student ID with one of our basement staff members (Mingsho, Rakesh or Ichiro), write your name on our register, and you get your ID back when you return the equipment.

**Access RGIT Wi-fi**

RGIT has wi-fi internet access on:

1) Level 8
2) Level 5
3) Basement

The wireless password is “rgitstudents”. This will soon be deployed to all levels of the building. Excellent!

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**GRADUATION TICKETS**

**Book Now!**

Your graduation is a big deal to us. You deserve the recognition and a gala night. RGIT staff really look forward to this night to celebrate and applaud your achievements. We’re going to make it an occasion to be proud of. Book tickets now for yourself and close friends or family. The venue will be close to the city and RGIT is working to ensure this is an affordable event for all.
I constantly liaise with similar [event coordination] companies to keep up different contacts ... and continually offer my services. I’m always looking at getting the right qualifications and keeping up-to-date with the industry and technology.

Evolve: How did you find your job?
I was working in the banqueting department of a major hotel. I used to admire the companies that came in to do these beautiful set-ups. I helped them one day, they liked the way I worked and offered me the chance to work for them.

Evolve: What events do you do?
Any event with major hotels or large businesses, also festivals, major music concerts and exhibitions.

Evolve: What does work as an event stylist involve?
A lot of physical and mental work, from selling, which involves doing quotes, to booking and organising equipment and staff, setting the function up, running the event, packing it down, warehouse duties and general maintenance of equipment.

Evolve: What steps are you taking to carve your career path?
I constantly liaise with similar (event coordination) companies to keep up different contacts ... and continually offer my services. I’m always looking at getting the right qualifications and keeping up-to-date with the industry and technology.

Evolve: How are your studies helping?
I am hoping to gain better insight into the workings and understanding of a business and how I can run this business more efficiently.

Evolve: What job seeker tips can you offer other students?
Apply for jobs, even if they’re not advertised. I have acquired some really good positions by just sending through a resume and cover letter outlining my passion.
RGIT CAREER - ASPIRATIONS

Meet our Diploma of Management students at Campus 152 (Elizabeth St) who finish their course in July. They’re into Big Business ;-)
Banana Business
An inspiring story from RGIT’s partner campus, AITE, in Cairns (QLD)

Christina Volta has the kind of spirit we hope all our students can embody as they find their way forward.

After 35 years of employment, 50-year-old Christina lost her job last year, and struggled to find another. She thought her age and lack of computer skills could be the problem. Not to be discouraged, Christina completed our Diploma of Business and Diploma of Management.

"Being unemployed is not the easy life, I can tell you. My aim is to get myself off unemployment benefits. If no one was going to employ me, I decided to employ myself.”

She, and her partner, are now working hard to start a small business marketing yummy chocolate-coated frozen bananas at Nth Queensland’s popular weekend markets and music festivals.

“We’ve been to the Port Douglas market, and there are six more we’d like to try.”

“Considering 12 months ago I couldn’t even turn on a computer, I’ve come a long way. I’m doing the business side of things. The course covered a lot of marketing and networking. You’ve got to put yourself out there and have a positive attitude, set yourself goals and have a vision,” she says.

Christina Volta
Diploma of Business and Diploma of Management

"Christina, it sounds like you’re on your way. Thanks for sharing a great story. All of us at RGIT and AITE are on your team. Go Christina!

Meet our Distance Learning Team, Brisbane

RGIT has 180 students enrolled in distance learning for our Diploma of Business and Management programs through education partner, AITE. Many of the students come from regional areas of Queensland. These trainers deliver courses through Skype chats, teleconferencing, email, LiveChats, regular webinars and scheduled face-to-face lecture workshops. Techno-fabulous!

Pictured: Left to Right
• Joshua Nelson : Distance Team Leader
• Merrilee Taylor – Distance Trainer
• Danny Berry : Distance Academic Coordinator
• Barbara Johnson – Distance Trainer
• Andrea Nowell – Distance Trainer
• Isaiah Geritz – Marketing Manager
• Anthony Slack – Marketing Officer
• Lena Patterson – Student Recruitment Officer
• Tarryn Geritz – Accounts Officer
EATING OUT

These places have passed the taste test by your student buddies.

Yee Man Leung
MABROWN CURRY HOUSE, 111 BOURKE ST, CITY
“For its quality ingredients.”

&

MAX BRUNNER, QV SQUARE, LONSDALE ST
“For dessert!”

Eunkyung Shuin
ORIENTAL SPOON, LATROBE ST, MELBOURNE CENTRAL
“For delicious, cheap Korean.”

Yaka Nahara
WABI SABI, 94 SMITH ST, COLLINGWOOD
“For the sushi, pancake dessert and service is very good, every time.”

Youngmi Pyo
KOKO BLACK, 52 COLLINS ST, CITY & OM VEGETARIAN CAFÉ, LEVEL 1, RGIT
“I love it there. The café smells of chocolate” & “Om Café: cheap, quick and value food.”

Yaojia Sun
BLANC COFFEE BAR, 140-146 KING ST, CITY
“For great pasta.”

TaeHwa Kim
KIMCHI HUT, 185 COLEMAN PDE, GLEN WAKERLEY
“For its seafood meals, especially lobster.”
Top 6 Apps for International Students

By George Campbell, guest writer

Melbourne has been ranked in the Top 10 “World’s Most Liveable Cities” for the past decade, for good reason. It’s a thriving metropolis. Here are six of the best apps to help you acclimatise to life and study here and to experience the attractions this vibrant city has to offer.

**BABYLON**

Studying in a new country and in a new language can be difficult. Babylon offers an easy solution – translations for more than 75 languages. Babylon also has a unique Flashcard tool which is ideal for keeping track of new vocabulary you wish to remember.

**AUSTRALIA STUDENT GUIDE**

Australia Student Guide displays all the information you need to discover Melbourne: cafes, bars, shops, museums, outdoor activities, events calendar, weekly specials and survival guides. The app is maintained by Australian students with the specific aim of assisting international students to enjoy themselves. It offers help in finding accommodation and information about Australian culture. It can connect you with internet support centres, such as Premier Choice Internet, and banking advisors to help you set up bank accounts. Regular updates keep you at the forefront of current events. A must-have app!

**THE MELBOURNE OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE APP**

The Melbourne Official Visitor Guide app provides an interactive platform that includes interactive maps, public transport information, travel tips, favourite stores, top locations and special deals. The map integration feature helps you to navigate Melbourne easily. An events calendar updates you about seasonal events across Melbourne, and Victoria. You can share your favourite events and locations with fellow students on Facebook and Twitter. This app also notes exclusive offers and deals students can use at city attractions.

**myMARKETVIC**

Melbourne is famous for its food market scene, which you can now explore with myMarketVic. This free app is very successful, having won the first ever Victorian Government competition “App my State” in 2010.
**Tips from IT students**

*RGIT’s Certificate II Information, Digital Media & Technology students recommend their faves:*

**Maria Martinez Lozano**
- **Mobile service:** Optus $30 prepaid.
- **Phone app:** WhatsApp, cross-platform mobile messaging that allows you to exchange messages without having to pay for SMS.
- **Mobile PC device:** Google Nexus, flexible & user friendly.
- **Online messaging service:** Viber, free calls to other Viber users.

**Lihong Ji**
- **Mobile service:** Vodafone $35 cap plan.
- **Search engine:** Google Chrome, faster!
- **Mobile PC device:** Apple iPad Air
- **Online messaging service:** WeChat, because most of my friends are using this and it’s free to everyone.

**Hiroki Miyaguni**
- **Mobile service:** Optus prepaid.
- **Mobile PC device:** MacBook Pro, because I love Apple’s products.
- **Online messaging service:** LINE. With this app, I can chat, text & see the person.

**Longfei Zhang**
- **Mobile service:** Vodafone
- **Internet provider:** TPG, because it’s cheaper.
- **Phone app:** Public Transport Victoria.

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**13CABSAPP**

If you are new to Melbourne 13CABS is a convenient app for taxi services. You can easily and quickly book a taxi, without the hassle of ringing and being put on hold. The app features a “fare estimator” so that you know approximately how much your fare will cost. Perfect for students on tight budgets!

**TIME OUT MELBOURNE APP**

Time Out Melbourne is full of reviews of the best restaurants, bars and cafes, previews of theatre events, operas and dance stages, and notes the best club nights, festivals and comedy shows. A variety of maps show the events closest to your current location and save your favourites so that you can easily revisit them. If you’re feeling adventurous, the app generates 10 random events you can explore. Great!
Visit The Couch

Movie nights, dance lessons, free classes, free hair cuts, parties, video games and volunteering opportunities. Sounds alright! Check out The Couch, an inner-city hangout especially for you that’s so cool, it’s starting to attract local uni students too.

The Couch is part of a Salvation Army project, designed as a place for international students to socialise and make new friends. The Salvation Army is a Christian organisation and has an excellent reputation in Australia for its community work.

Located on Bourke St, The Couch is a place for you to feel at home. It has a pretty groovy warehouse feel inside, with brick walls and concrete floors and plenty of couches too, of course.

Best of all, the activities at The Couch are free, or very affordable.

There are hot drinks and cheap meals available, internet and computer access. And they like to celebrate birthdays, because they know you’re probably here without any family.

The Couch is open Monday to Thursday from 5pm to 9pm. You can find it at 69 Bourke St (between Spring and Exhibition streets).


Cheap Tickets to Top Shows!

If you’re culturally inclined, Melbourne has an excellent range of theatre, music and dance events at venues in the Central Business District (CBD). Half-Tix sells tickets to a whole bunch of shows for half price on the day of the event. Try your luck one night!

You can check ticket availability online at www.halftixmelbourne.com, or call the recorded message on 9650 9420, but you must go to Half Tix to buy them. It’s located in the Melbourne Town Hall Administration building on Swanston Street, next door to the Town Hall itself, on the corner of Collins and Swanston Sts.

Opening hours:

Mon 10am – 2pm
Tues 11am – 6pm
Wed 11am – 6pm
Thurs 11am – 6pm
Fri 11am – 6.30
Sat 10am – 4pm
Why We Love Brunetti

Trainer Eugenio Giannotta has an excellent relationship with Mr Fabio Angelé, owner of the fabulous Italian eaterie, Brunetti. Mr Angelé is generous with RGIT’s barista students, who receive a 10% discount card after a tour with Eugenio, and he encourages them to visit again.

“I learned about budget control, staff rostering, customer service, team work, cooperation in front-of-house ... good management, clear policy and work procedures. Excellent.”
- Tzin Wai Kong

“It’s related to what we study...”
- Heejung Lee

“It was totally amazing... this trip has made me to be interested in the Hospitality field much more than before... After this trip, I can’t help comparing the other cafes with Brunettis. It’s the best absolutely.”
- Yujin Jang.

“I learnt how to make chocolate and all sorts of dessert...”
- Yangwen Zhou

“It is difficult to get inside big cafe’s like Brunetti, every part of the trip was amazing and especially the owner is very nice... good front-of-house service is connecting with good work from the kitchen... and also having a strong manager to teach staff the ‘service mind’.”
- Pinrapee Suwanmisara

“Mr Fabio... gave me [another] tour around the bar and I was able to watch the Barisiti working very closely. They also gave me a chance to use the machine. It was a great experience.”
- Yumi Konishi Horiuchi

Fabio Angelé and Eugenio
Novotel Employs Our Minnie

When it came time to do work placement for her Certificate III Hospitality Commercial Cookery course in December 2013, Minnie had no employer in mind. Fortunately, RGIT’s trainer placed her at the Novotel Melbourne hotel on Collins St.

Minnie did so well during her work placement over the busy Christmas period, that the hotel offered her a job in the kitchen. She has been working there since January 2014.

“It was really busy. They had a function for 200 people in the evening. I prepared the dishes, the chef showed me what to do,” says Minnie, who is from Thailand.

“Now I’m doing the breakfast buffet and start at 6am. I do omelettes, fried and poached eggs, and baked beans. On the weekends [at one breakfast service] I use about 100 eggs,” she says.

Trainer, Pino, who assessed Minnie during her work placement, said Novotel management was very impressed with her presentation, punctuality and communication skills.

“She was always well groomed, uniform ironed, very punctual. She’s a good listener, makes sure she is understood, very hygienic and tidy, and she did her job very efficiently,” says Pino.

Minnie says her breakfast team is really friendly and helpful. Her main challenge, she says, is that she’s a bit short and finds it hard to reach things on the kitchen shelves!

Well done Minnie. Another RGIT student success story.

Latte Art Champ with Social Heart

Former RGIT barista and Latte Art student, Shinsaku Fukayama, has placed 32nd out of 64 competitors at the World Latte Art Championship Open in New York by pouring a beautiful flower heart.

But Shin is not driven by fame to become successful. He, and his business partner Makoto, are on a mission to change the world, one coffee at a time.

Shin is working hard to raise his profile and build coffee expertise to launch a new coffee house business in Melbourne next year with a big social heart. Link Coffee wants to make a difference to world social problems by supporting important causes and charities. Shin and friends have already sent $1000 to the Philippines after the typhoon in November 2013, and $2000 to Japan Heart to help children suffering from starvation and the AIDS virus in Myanmar.

Since June 2013, Shin has worked as a barista at Manchester Place café in the city and Loco Coffee in Elsternwick, pouring up to 800 coffees a day, even more on busy weekends.

“I get a sore wrist and shoulder,” he laughs, but it’s worth it. The secret to good latte art, he says, is “patience and lots of practice. Sometimes, after doing 800 coffees at work, I go home and practice another 2 hours.”

Instead of focusing on being highly competitive in a “win or lose” world of work, Link Coffee will have an equitable business model of joint ownership among its workers, says Shin. It promises a supportive, sympathetic work environment that helps its employees achieve their dreams.

“We all have difficulties, but we can overcome them by working together,” says Shin.

https://www.facebook.com/link.coffee.2013.melbourne
What’s Cooking?

Our Hospitality Commercial Cookery course has recently changed, giving students even more time in the kitchen. In the “Coordinate Cooking Operations” unit, they spend 4 days in the kitchen (formerly 2 days). “It’s more about team work and cooking,” says trainer, Chris Ong. “How to coordinate different tasks and serve customers well presented dishes, within the time frame, and hot!”.

The highlight of the unit is making a croquembouche, or crème-filled profiterole stack, for dessert.

“It takes 50 to 100 profiteroles,” says Chris, made by the whole team and served at a buffet to RGIT staff. Lucky us!

Autumn Warmer:
Pea & Ham Soup

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 brown onion, roughly chopped
- 1 clove garlic, chopped
- 1 carrot, diced
- 1 large ham hock or 2-3 bacon bones
- 250g green split peas
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 1 litre vegetable stock
- 1 litre water

Method

Heat oil over medium-high heat in a very large pot on the stove top. Sauté onion, garlic and carrot until they begin to soften. Add ham hocks or bacon bones. Cover with 1 litre of vegetable stock water and 1 litre of water. Add split peas (rinse first) to the pot.

Lower heat and simmer for about 2.5 hours. Split peas should be completely soft. Remove ham hocks. Add 1 cup of frozen peas and, after 1 minute, turn heat off.

Using a hand-held stick mixer, blend soup in the pot until all the ingredients are smooth. If soup is too thin, simmer until it reduces and thickens. Shred or slice the meat from ham hock or bacon bones and add to soup as you like.

Makes about 1.5 litres of soup.
HEALTHY LIVING

How to Handle Alcohol

Alcohol abuse is a big issue among international students. According to Mirza Usman Baig, president of the Australian Federation of International Students (AFIS), too many international students are binge drinking due to the pressures of life away from home. “As students’ are away from parents, and they have few friends here, there is no one to take care of them when they drink in bars/clubs and get into violence,” says Usman.


Aussie Culture & Booze

Some people say you are ‘un-Australian’ if you don’t drink. That’s just not true. There are very real short-term and long-term side effects of alcohol abuse, like:

- Increased anxiety, stress & depression
- Relationship problems
- Financial problems
- Alcohol poisoning
- Brain damage
- Increased risk of accident/injury & violence
- Increase risk of unsafe sex/pregnancy

Tips

If you are going to drink, it is recommended you drink no more than two standard drinks a day. Remember:

- You don’t have to drink to have a good time with friends
- You don’t have to drink to fit into Australian culture
- Pace yourself: alternate between alcoholic drinks & non-alcoholic drinks
- Don’t drink on empty stomach
- Look out for your friends
- Know how you are getting home
- Keep your drink within view to avoid drink spiking
- Stay away from violent people.

DO YOU HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM?

You may have a drinking problem if you...

- Feel guilty or ashamed about your drinking.
- Lie to others or hide your drinking habits.
- Have friends or family members who are worried about your drinking.
- Need to drink in order to relax or feel better.
- “Black out” or forget what you did while you were drinking.
- Regularly drink more than you intended to.
Evolve - Student Newsletter

Healthy Living Quote

Watch your thoughts; They become words.
Watch your words; They become actions.
Watch your actions; They become habits.
Watch your habits; They become character.
Watch your character; It becomes your destiny.

Lao Tzu

Get Support
If you, or a friend, is experiencing problems with alcohol, the following services can help:

→ Direct Line (24-hour counselling and referral): 1800 888 236
→ Lifeline 13 11 14
→ RGIT's student counsellor
→ A doctor (see list below)
→ AFIS can recommend government services to help solve your problems: info@internationalstudents.org.au.

Need a Doctor?

Keep this list of doctors handy. In Australia, we call them “GPs” (general medical practitioners).

International Students: Remember, if you’re absent from class because you’re sick, you must have a medical certificate from a GP. If you don’t live in or near the city, it’s wise to find a GP near your home now. Then it’s easy to make an appointment if you become sick.

Know a good GP? If you have a good GP, let us know so we can tell other students. Email lisa@rgit.edu.au.

Chinese (various dialects)
Melbourne City Medical Centre
68 Lonsdale St (Exhibition St).
GP: Dr Feng Yang
Ph: 9639 9600.

Dr Irene Wong
Suite 28, 131 Lonsdale St.
Ph: 9663 7222.

Swanston Street Medical Centre
RMIT Building 36,
393 Swanston St.
Ph: 9654 2722.

Japanese
Mid Town Medical Clinic
250 Collins Street.
International Medical Services (IMS) is a Japanese Nihongo Iryo Centre located at Midtown Medical Clinic. Japanese interpreters are available. Medication labelled in Japanese can also be prescribed. Hours: Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
Ph: 1800 777 313 (free call) for a Japanese-speaking receptionist.

Indian (various dialects)
Burwood Healthcare
400 Burwood Hwy, Burwood
Ph: 9888 8177
www.burwoodhealthcare.com.au

Swanston Street Medical Centre
RMIT Building 36,
393 Swanston St.
Ph: 9654 2722.

Medical One
QV, 3 Albert Coates La (Cnr Swanston & Lonsdale St).
Ph: 8663 7000.

Burwood Healthcare
400 Burwood Hwy, Burwood
Ph: 9888 8177
www.burwoodhealthcare.com.au

H.M. Heritage Chinese Medical Centre
Dr Bruce Zhu
493 South Rd, Bentleigh
Ph: 9553 6801

Malaysian
Burwood Healthcare
400 Burwood Hwy, Burwood
Ph: 9888 8177
www.burwoodhealthcare.com.au

Medical One (Spanish)
QV, 3 Albert Coates La (Cnr Swanston & Lonsdale St)
Ph: 8663 7000.

Nepalese
Northcote Medical Group
Dr Chandra Deepak Pokhrel
147 Westbourne Grove, Northcote
Ph: 9489 8668

Dental Clinic
No multilingual staff here, unfortunately.

Melbourne Central Dental
Melbourne Central, 211 La Trobe St.
Ph: 9654 5544.
Hudsons Coffee 84-86 Elizabeth St, Melbourne
-Open 7 days-

*Dreaming of a break from the books?

RGIT students receive 10% off all purchases*
when you show your student card in our Elizabeth St store

FREE WIFI with any purchase

*Discount offered upon display of Student ID Card at Hudsons Coffee 84-86 Elizabeth St. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Valid until 30/6/2014

www.hudsonscoffee.com.au