Volunteering: Making Your Investment of Time Worthwhile

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About Me

• ATA-certified Spanish to English freelance legal and commercial translator
• The Savvy Newcomer blog team
• Buddies Welcome Newbies
• Delaware Valley Translators Association
• ATA ad hoc website committee

http://www.atanet.org/resources/podcasts.php

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Making the Case

• What is volunteering?
• Why do people volunteer?
  Feel good · Pass it on · Keep things afloat · Experience · Network
• Barriers

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Statistics

• BLS survey
  • https://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm
  • http://www.businessinsider.com/bls-volunteering-chart-2016-2

• Who in the world volunteers?

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What does it look like?

• Community vs. professional
• Volunteering vs. pro bono work
• In-person vs. digital
• One-time vs. long-term

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I’m sold. Now what?

• ATA
  
  Divisions/chapters · School outreach · Conference · Committees

• Advocacy

• Volunteering your services
  
  The Rosetta Foundation · Kiva · Translators without Borders

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Making your work work for you

• What does volunteering say about me?
• Opportunity for education, experience
• Showcasing and leveraging

Resume · References · Go above and beyond

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Things to avoid

- Burnout / over-serving
  - Paid work
  - Professional Development
  - Volunteering
- Lack of qualification
- Detracting

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Keep in mind...

- Skill set
- How and when to say no/boundaries
- Know the commitment
- Fulfill your commitments
- Thank your volunteers!
Questions?