

Janet Chu

Riders and volunteers from the 17th Annual NYC Century Bike Tour are already familiar with Janet's handiwork. Sometime in August, we lost count of the hours she gave over to registering riders, editing turn sheets, printing signs and drawing route maps. Janet is as integral to T.A. as any staffer, and the perfect example of how anyone with some spare time and conviction can carve out a niche with us.

Occupation: NYU continuing education student and intern with the US State Department at the United Nations.

Age: 30

What neighborhoods do you live in?
I live in East Harlem.

Why did you start volunteering with T.A.?
I wanted to do something environmentally oriented. When I met another T.A. volunteer, Glenn McAnanama, at a meet-up group he referred me to T.A. as a good environmental group for which to volunteer.

What kinds of volunteer activities have you done with T.A.? Pretty much everything relating to the NYC Century Bike Tour, and regular T.A. stuff like mailing parties, office work, surveying pedestrians in SoHo and helping out at special events.

Hours (volunteering) per month: About a year ago, I started out volunteering around the office once a week and coming to mailing parties. I spent more time helping prepare for the NYC Century Bike Tour over the summer when school ended. Sadly, I'm now back down to just helping out at mailing parties during my time off.



WILEY NORVELL

Janet happily took on tasks big and small as T.A. prepared for the NYC Century Bike Tour. Janet is also known to bring chocolates for people's birthdays. Talk about a great volunteer!

What do you think about Mailing Parties?
A good selection of drinks, really good bite-size brownie treats from Whole Foods and like a former featured volunteer mentioned—the music could be better (sorry guys!).

Favorite thing about volunteering with T.A.:
Being friends with the staff—they are so nice and loveable. Wiley, the Volunteer Coordinator is the kind of guy for whom you want to do stuff.

Do you have a personal philosophy that helps you through the day?
Never give up, and have patience

How do you get around NYC (bike, foot, subway, bus)? Foot, subway, bus, but my apologies, no bike...

What is your favorite/least favorite thing about getting around NYC? I like the lack of a need of a car—different from California, from where I come.

Any thoughts on T.A. as an organization?
I never imagined I'd enjoy volunteering for T.A. as much as I have, and I'm grateful to

know the staff as friends. I don't think NYC realizes how much they benefit from the organization or how hard the staff works for the people of New York. I think everyone should try volunteering for T.A. once to see how fun it is. □

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Gideon Oliver
646-602-9242
Gideon@oliverandoliverlaw.com

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