

Stacy Irwin

Occupation: Book designer, soon to be engineering student, High Priestess of Envelope-Stuffing

Age: 27

What neighborhoods do you live/work in? I live in Williamsburg and work in SoHo.

What do you ride? After my last two bikes were stolen, I bought a Dahon Folding Bike.

Why did you start volunteering with T.A.? I remember reading about President Bush's USA Freedom Corps announcement, a call to Americans to volunteer their time to a cause they cared about. Stuffing envelopes [for T.A.] sounded simple enough.

What kinds of volunteer activities have you done with T.A.? I helped paint the filing cabinets when T.A. moved to the new office, but I wanted to do more—I love to build things. I worked a shift at the last rest stop of Transportation Alternatives 2005 Century Bike Tour, did lots of mailing parties and helped out at the *Contested Streets* film screening.

Hours (volunteering) per month: 10-ish

What do you think about Volunteer night? You guys crack me up! It's the most fun I've had on Wednesday nights. The music selection could be improved though.

Favorite Co-Volunteer: Ken Coughlin (of Car-Free Central Park renown) because he cracks me up!

What upcoming projects are you working on with T.A.? Possibly some graphic design work.



Stacy Irwin, book designer by day, High Priestess of Envelope Stuffing by night.

What is your personal philosophy? The individual is the most important factor in any system. If you want to make a change in something that is bigger than yourself, you must first change yourself.

Issues that concern you as a bicyclist or walker in NYC: We need to separate the cyclists from the pedestrians and cars, I believe. The roads are for cars, the sidewalks are for pedestrians, but there is no place for bikes in the city (the bike lanes are pathetic). Protected bike lanes, I think that's the key to a safer city. *Contested Streets* really converted me. Every time I ride I think about how I wouldn't be having this problem in a dedicated [bike] lane.

You're Mayor/Director of T.A./God for a day;

what do you do? I would be somewhat despot-ic. I would lower the speed limit in the inner areas of every city; make the police (especially NYPD) crack down on speeding cars, belligerent motorists and other petroleum fueled offenders and ticket or impound cars that park in or make turns in bike lanes. I would make downtown Manhattan below Canal Street car-free on weekends. And give myself free tuition for the next four years of school.

Thoughts on T.A. as an organization: Any cause needs instigators AND promulgators. The work done by T.A. to advocate for sensible transportation and educate the public about the benefits, is necessary, and compliments well other groups' efforts to incite and provoke. □

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