



# **Giovanna DiGioia Bernazzali**

## **Background and Education**

Of dual descent and culture, I hold US and Italian citizenship.

I studied Humanities in high school. At University, my majors were both English and American literatures, minors were Germanic philology and comparative linguistics.

In my early thirties, I also studied interior decorating and I gained a license as real estate sales agent.

## **Work Experience in the US**

I spent a good portion of my adult life, about 20 years, in the US, in NYC, where I worked in different capacities and positions in a medical office, in a medical center, in a nonprofit organization, in a fashion company and a specialty bookstore. In all the roles covered in those years, I had the opportunity to exploit and enhance my communication skills, both in person and in writing as well as my organizational ones.

Since my University days and up to the moment I relocated to Italy I also taught English and Italian as a part time professional activity in a couple of prominent learning centers of the City and as well as a volunteer activity, as I was always involved in volunteering.

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## **Work Experience in Italy**

### **- Teaching**

Having moved to Italy about fifteen years ago, I joined the learning center of the Associazione Industriali of Reggio Emilia, today, CIS .Scuola di Formazione Superiore as Instructor of English.

My activity for the center has allowed me to couple teaching of the language with business. In fact, I specialize in teaching Business English and I deliver my services almost exclusively in companies. Since 1999 I have taught in 63 companies in the district of RE mostly, but also in the ones of Parma, Piacenza and Modena. In some companies I have regularly rendered my services throughout these years.

My teaching activity for CIS, has, and still does, included specific courses such as a Master course in Business Studies, English component; the IFTS course, and special purpose courses. Throughout these years I have also prepared students for certification such Trinity GSE, SEW, ISE versions and TOEFL.

In CIS, I also covered the position of didactic director for the language department.

A special project I developed for CIS was the creation of the complete course of General English specifically studied for the center and for its target user, that is to say the employee of a company. The whole course spans from beginner level to advanced one.

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## **-Translating and Interpreting**

Having already had opportunity to develop my skills as a translator and interpreter, in which I'm self-taught, in the US, in the positions I held in a nonprofit org, in a fashion company and in the medical field, also in Italy I have been offering my services translating and interpreting, though they do not represent my main activity.

In fact, apart from projects for the commercial world, I have had the opportunity to regularly collaborate with Reggio Children, the nonprofit org. supporting the municipal infant toddler centers and pre-schools of Reggio Emilia, as well as with the Loris Malaguzzi Foundation which operates in the same sector.

For the organization and the foundation I have been doing interpreting, escorting foreign delegations during visits to municipal infant- toddler centers and pre-schools, and I have completed translation assignments including a portion of the book "The hundred languages of children"

For Reggio Children I also interpreted during International 2004 International Convention for Architetto Marco Zini for his presentation of "bambini, spazi, relazioni - metaprogetto di ambiente per l'infanzia", and for Professors Peter Moss and Gunilla Dahlberg for the presentation in Roma of their book "Beyond Quality in Early Childhood Education: Languages of Evaluation"

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Especially rewarding has also been the interpreting work I did for Edison Cultural Center, now Solaris, in Parma. In fact, I interpreted for independent movie directors as Mike Figgis, Michael Winterbottom, Philip Noyce, and actors as Rupert Everett, songwriters and artists as Laurie Anderson, writers as Paul Auster

Among my experiences as an interpreter, equally rewarding has been interpreting for the October 2010 visit to the University of Parma at the Political Science Faculty of Peter Green, chairman of the Political Science Faculty at Roosevelt University, Chicago.

As far as my activity as a translator, especially gratifying has been translating in the chapter written by Panattoni, Kasper, Solla in the book "La Cenere delle Immagini" first presented at the 2006 European Photography Exhibit held in Reggio Emilia

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