

KATHALINA ALONSO

LINGUIST, VOICE/CONVERSATION DESIGNER, WEB DEVELOPER

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PROFILE

Bringing a linguist and educator perspective to foster meaningful experiences and cultivate connections across cultures. Excited to contribute to the language technology spheres!

EXPERIENCE

Chatbot Conversation Designer

WeLocalize | Nov 2020 - Dec 2020

- delivered high-quality training data transformation solutions for NLP-enabled machine learning
- built out a dataset of information (regarding financial services and media cable) representing chatbot requests and potential human-ai conversations for Amazon Lex
- utilized conversation generation tool to create prompts to which the user provides their information

Voice Technology Specialist

Uniphore | Aug 2020 - Oct 2020

- identified and anticipated patterns in raw data, and consulted with the automatic speech recognition team regarding timely production of transcripts in colloquy format and identification of affect
- leveraged the power of AI to help enterprises deliver transformational customer service experiences by means of conversational analytics, data analytics, voice bots, IVR systems, and customer feedback history

English Teacher

JEI Learning Center | Sep 2019 - Oct 2020

- adapted teaching methods and materials to meet students' varying academic needs
- developed literacy curriculum engaging students and fostering creativity and collaboration
- transitioned from in-person to online amid a health crisis

Project Consultant

LabVoice | July - Sep 2020

- established clear responsibilities and expectations for all members of the consulting team
- enhanced the human-voice assistant interaction focusing on science laboratory needs
- implemented Google Sheets API with JavaScript and Node.js for a laboratory-based voice assistant software

Linguist

DefinedCrowd | June 2019 - June 2020

- utilized crowdsourcing applications for speech technology and natural language processing systems
- improved named entity recognition with sequence-tagging and templaticization of queries
- trained machine learning models to identify inflection patterns based on emotion

Teacher Assistant

Rock Brook School | July 2015 - Jun 2018

- implemented behavioral management strategies as well as modified coursework according to IEP
- managed AAC (augmentative and alternative communication) devices for verbally limited students
- assisted in therapies, such as speech-language pathology, reinforcing social communication skills

Research Assistant

Rutgers University-NB | Sep 2015 - May 2016

- collaborated on metrical structure in Gujarati and Mandarin focusing on stress and highly sonorous vowel [a], and annotated speech data with Praat software
- investigated English-Spanish development in preschool-aged children, specifically cross-linguistic influence, and presented research on locative prepositions at an annual university symposium

Copy Editor

The Daily Targum | Sep 2013 - May 2015

- proofread text for style, readability, and adherence to AP style and rewrite text to improve clarity
- verify factual correctness of information, such as dates and statistics

VOLUNTEER/INTERN EXPERIENCE

User Engagement Intern

hellola | May - Aug 2020

- contributed to UX/UI of a social language learning app
- created social media content, specifically Spanish and French vocabulary at the conversational level

Learning Management System Collaborator

JerseySTEM | Apr - May 2020

- promoted STEM education (critical thinking and problem-solving) to under-served youth
- created and implement quality training and learning courses as well as anticipated potential issues concerning course design, configuration, and infrastructure

Language Therapy Volunteer

Clínica San Juan de Dios Cusco | June - July 2018

- supervised differently-abled patients aged 13 and younger at rehabilitation ward
- educated verbally-limited patient in sign language, created communication boards, and engaged in language play (e.g., used Snapchat to strengthen motor skills)

PERSONAL PROJECTS

ToughLove

A voice skill that features a maternal, no-nonsense Italian American from New Jersey dishing out harsh heart-to-heart for the user's every mood whether it be excited, upset, or frustrated. Tools: VoiceFlow, Audacity, Alexa

Portfolio website

Rather than tell prospective employers about my skills, I wanted to showcase my abilities and thinking processes with first drafts and my chicken-scratch notes. Currently integrating a chatbot.

SKILLS

Programming

HTML | CSS | JavaScript | XML | SSML | Pug | React | Node.js | Express.js | RESTful APIs | HTTP | MySQL | AWS | TDD | MVC | Git | Bash | Python | JSFG

Languages

English (native, American) | Spanish (native, US and Mexican) | French (fluent) | Am. Sign Language (conversational)

EDUCATION

Certificate, Voice Technology Design and Web Development

Emerson College and Stack Education | 2020

Master of Arts, Applied Linguistics and Language Acquisition in Multilingual Contexts

Universitat de Barcelona | 2018-2019

Bachelor of Arts, Linguistics and French

Rutgers University-NB | 2012-2017

Minors in English Literature and Spanish

** References available upon request **