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American Translators Association Announces the 2012 Winner of the School Outreach Program Award

ALEXANDRIA, VA — The American Translators Association announced that Birgit Vosseler-Brehmer, a translator based in Andernach, Germany, has been chosen as the winner of ATA’s School Outreach Program Award.

“We are thrilled to give this award to Vosseler-Brehmer to honor her effort in reaching out to students to educate them on this exciting career option,” said Dorothee Racette, President of the American Translators Association. “It’s a really exciting time for translators and interpreters. As more and more companies are focusing on the global arena, they are beginning to realize the importance of having a professional translator or interpreter, as mistakes can be embarrassing, costly, and potentially disastrous.”

ATA launched the School Outreach Program in 2004 to educate students about translation and interpreting and to interest them in these rewarding career fields. Through the program, professional linguists speak to students at all levels, highlighting the career benefits of learning another language and the increasing potential for exciting work with foreign language skills. Using a variety of model presentations and activities available on ATA’s website, presenters outline the requirements for becoming a professional translator or interpreter, emphasizing that these careers demand far more than simply being bilingual.

“As globalization continues to accelerate, the need for high-level language skills are more evident than ever – in business, in diplomacy, and in national security,” said Lillian Clementi, founder of the ATA School Outreach program. “It’s in everyone’s interest for today’s linguists to help educate tomorrow’s translators and interpreters – and tomorrow’s clients.”

In order to receive this award, participants must belong to ATA or an ATA-affiliated organization and must deliver a presentation at a school of their choice. Entrants must also submit photos of themselves presenting in the classroom.

An English-to-German translator with over ten years of experience in translation, Vosseler-Brehmer specializes in automation, linear motion technology and environmental analysis.

As winner of the award, Vosseler-Brehmer received free registration to ATA's 53rd Annual Conference at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront in San Diego, California, where she was presented with the award before hundreds of her colleagues in the translation industry.

To learn more about the American Translators Association and the School Outreach Program, visit www.atanet.org or call +1(703) 683-6100.

Founded in 1959, the American Translators Association's primary goals include fostering and supporting the professional development of translators and interpreters and promoting the translation and interpreting professions. ATA, based in Alexandria, Virginia, currently has 11,000 members worldwide. For more information on ATA, please visit www.atanet.org.

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