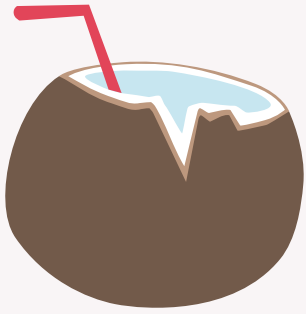




Upcoming Events!

Meeting/Event Information
How Understanding Communication
Styles Contributes to Workplace Success.
September 03, 2026, 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM. Virtual (Zoom)

Discover how understanding communication styles can transform collaboration, reduce conflict, and improve workplace performance. Join us on Thursday, September 3, 2026, from 6:00–7:15 PM (Zoom) for this engaging session with leadership expert  Alan Krieger. Gain practical strategies you can apply immediately, and receive a free personalized communication style assessment.

Meeting/Event Information
Get the Best Out of Every Negotiation You Do
October 6, 2026 | 6:00–7:15 PM | Zoom

Whether you're negotiating at work or in everyday life, the right approach can make all the difference. Join Joe Friedman  of Zehren-Friedman Associates for an interactive session designed to help you become a more confident and effective negotiator.

Discover the biggest mistakes negotiators make, practical tools you can use in every negotiation, the sources of power you already have, and how collaboration can lead to stronger outcomes and relationships. You'll also leave with a practical planning tool to help you prepare for your next negotiation. Come ready to rethink negotiation, not as winning or losing, but as a process for creating better outcomes.

MENTORSHIP: THE POWER OF LEARNING TOGETHER



One of the greatest benefits of being part of the ATD community is the opportunity to grow through mentorship. As a mentor, especially within the Executive Learning Network (ELN), you have the chance to share your expertise, broaden your leadership impact, and inspire the next generation of talent development professionals.

As a mentee, you'll gain guidance, insights, and encouragement to accelerate your own career journey while building meaningful connections.

Whether you're looking to give back or to grow, mentorship through our local ATD chapter creates a win-win: a stronger network, deeper learning, and a thriving talent development community.

Interested in a Power Membership?

Check out the resources for a combined national and local membership!

- Professional Development Resources
- Access to ATD Publications
- Learning and Certification Discounts
- Community & Networking
- Conferences & Events
- Thought Leadership and Industry Trends

[Click to Join!](#)

NNJ ATD President-Elect

Spotlight: Joe Alvarez

Tell us a little about yourself and what you do professionally?

I manage various programs for the development of key roles at our company. I also dabble in instructional design, learning data, and facilitation.

What inspired you to become involved in Learning & Development?

I really enjoy helping people and I also love the psychology of helping content stick.

Why are you a member of ATD, and what do you value most about being part of the local chapter?

The opportunities for development that our chapter can offer to those new in the role and those emerging in their careers.

Tell us about volunteering with ATD.

Volunteering is what helped me get the most out of the chapter. It helped me connect with like-minded individuals and receive mentorship and opportunities to develop that may not have come immediately in my career.

What's one professional accomplishment you're especially proud of?

Designing and developing close to 50 eLearnings in the span of a few months during COVID when learning was not easily accessible in our org.

What's one skill you're currently learning or hoping to develop this year?

Stakeholder engagement. It is more key than ever to develop when needing to explain the ROI in your training. Gone are the days of smile sheets. Leaders want to see real behavioral and performance change and stakeholder engagement is where to start!

What's one skill you're currently learning or hoping to develop this year?

Move in the flow of your business and focus there. The rest will come. A lot of times. We as learning professionals want to do everything we can because caring is in our nature. But sometimes it is not what leadership looks for. Moving with the flow of your business allows you various opportunities to align and focus on key items without burning yourself out.



Get to Know Joe 😊

Coffee or Tea? Coffee all day!

Morning Person or Night Owl? Night owl

Beach or Mountains? Mountains

Books or Podcasts? Podcasts!

Favorite vacation destination? Iceland

If you could instantly become an expert in one thing, what would it be? Guitar

What's one fun fact about you that most people don't know? I own over 200 vinyl records

Bonus Question: If you could have dinner with any person, living or historical, who would it be and why?

Anthony Bourdain. He would have the best dinner recommendations as well as the best advice!



Message from the President of NNJ-ATD

As President of the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Association for Talent Development, I am delighted to welcome you to this edition of our newsletter. I am grateful for the enthusiasm, expertise, and continued engagement of our members, volunteers, board members, speakers, and community partners. As we prepare for the future of work, artificial intelligence is becoming an increasingly valuable partner in learning and development—helping us generate ideas, personalize learning experiences, streamline projects, and enhance our impact. At the same time, the human qualities we bring—creativity, empathy, critical thinking, collaboration, and sound judgment—remain essential. Together, we can embrace emerging technologies responsibly while continuing to build a vibrant professional community where talent development professionals connect, learn, innovate, and grow. I look forward to seeing you at one of our webinars or in-person events.

[Click Here for Events](#)

Sincerely,
Maria

NYUSPS Adjunct Faculty member
Industry Affiliations:
Executive Women of New Jersey
Relationship Business Management Institute
Society for Human Resource Management
VR/AR Association
Project Management Institute
National, NNJ, and NYC ATD
2026 President - NNJ-ATD
<https://www.vrspaces.tv>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mariatriviera/>



**It takes a wonderful group of volunteers to make it all happen at
NNJ/ATD:**

Join us! Our current volunteer opportunities are:

VP Communications;

AVP Administration; AVP, Leadership & Talent

Volunteer Excellence Awards Manager; Graphics Designer

Social Media Manager; AVP, Technology; AVP, Finance

AVP, Sponsorships; Program Manager

**For more information, contact Pam Sammarco, VP of Leadership &
Talent at pam@greentrainingassociates.com**