

HOW'D YOU SCORE THAT GIG? By Alexandra Levit

Thought you knew what it was like to have or get a dream job?

Think again. For example, did you know that:

- For just a few thousand dollars, you can get certified to teach English as a foreign language and be on the next plane to Europe or Asia...all expenses paid.
- By 2014, due to a growing population, rising land costs, and new environmental regulations, landscape architecture is projected to be one of the hottest career fields around.
- There is actually a field, computational linguistics, which teaches machines how to speak human languages. This career originated in the 1950s, and today no company with a software product or application could do without it.
- Blogging isn't just a hobby anymore – there's real money to be made. Web advertising is expected to grow by 50% to \$23.6 billion by 2010, and with every passing day, more and more of those ad dollars are landing on blogs.
- Extra schooling won't assure you a job as an art curator, but volunteering at museums, restaurants that host art exhibits, libraries, or schools will put you in the right place at the right time.
- Successful congressional staffers pound the networking pavement just after an election, because newly elected Representatives need to staff their offices quickly.
- More than half of social service workers are in the health care and social assistance industries. One in three is employed by state and local governments, primarily in public welfare agencies and facilities for mentally disabled and developmentally challenged individuals.