

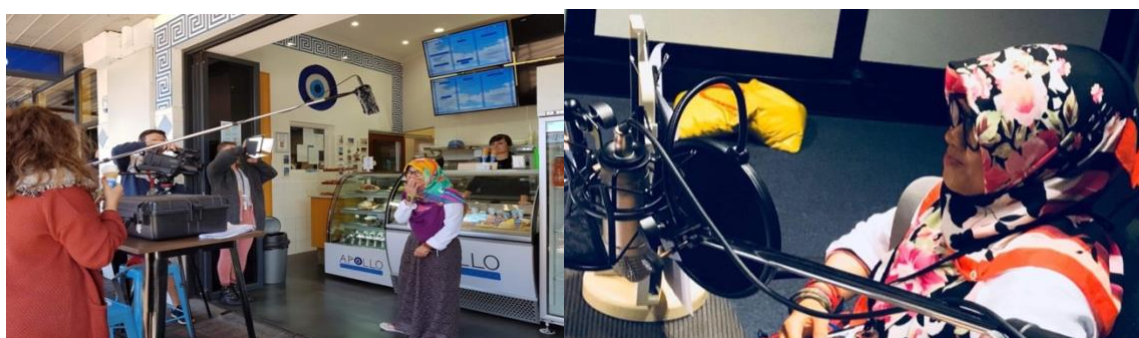
Hello I'm *Diah Galuh Sarimbit* from Pasuruan, East Java-Indonesia.

I graduated from Brawijaya University in 2010 with a Diploma III in English Language and then completed a Bachelor of Arts in English Language Education in 2013 at State University of Malang.

My opportunity to be involved in the 2018 Language Assistant Program at SIDE (School of Isolated and Distance Education) and Guildford Primary School as well as my previous time in Australia (Being an au pair in 2015-2016) has provided me with many examples of the Australian culture. Being one of the 2018 Indonesian Language Assistants is sort of living a dream for me. The joy is in sharing intercultural and language knowledge with the students and supporting the teachers and the students in correct language usage.



Being based at SIDE has enabled me to learn about teaching and IT. I have done some recordings/voice-overs and filming for an Indonesian language yr 3-5 resource development project. I have also accompanied teachers on school visits which is something I looked forward to as it enabled me to meet the students face to face and interact with them which is not possible during online lessons.



One day a week I worked at Guildford Primary School. From this face to face school experience I learned some strategies that I can hopefully adapt to Indonesian schools: reading time at school, mental health for teachers and students, students with special needs, behaviour management strategies, and the uniqueness of each child.

Volunteering

I love this word from the Phillipines - **Volunesia** - meaning- a moment when you forget that you're volunteering to help change lives, because it's changing yours. In a way, it helps me see how my life is and how I want my life to be what I can do for society.

This year, I have been volunteering in Perth CBD Blood Centre as a refreshment volunteer on Sundays at 7.30 am - 12.30 pm. My duties are to provide some snacks, clean up, and check if the donors need some help. It's really great to see people who spare their time to come and donate blood especially on Sundays which they could just spend with their families. I also love having a little chat with some donors as sometimes the great adventure is simply a conversation.



In the school holiday, I volunteered for All Abilities Camp held by Cahoots for five at Rottnest Island. I found all the volunteering programs on Volunteering WA on Facebook. I love how Australia takes care of all people, to give the same opportunity for children with special needs like the children I spent time with in Rottnest. I learned that children with special needs, when nurtured and encouraged, have the potential to achieve amazing things. It has inspired me to do more for my home country once I return to Indonesia and someday I want to make Indonesia a safe and friendly environment for kids and adults of all abilities.

I may not have travelled to lots of places to get to see and understand life, but I have travelled and witnessed many people's lives and that always makes me think that world is not only full of places but also of beautiful people – Galuh in a deep thought

Again, a massive thank you for Balai Bahasa (Ibu Karen and team), Dept of Education, SIDE (School of Isolated and Distance Education, Guildford PS, Perth CBD Donor Centre and Cahoots.

Pray Hard, Work Hard, Play Hard and Volunteer Hard.