

Didier Acevedo, CFA Spring Volunteer of the Quarter



Transitioning between local CFA societies and finding the right fit can be a journey of its own. For Didier Acevedo, CFA, joining the CFA Society of Los Angeles was a natural progression after experiencing the value of local societies in Boston and Chicago. Since settling in Southern California in 2014, CFA Society Los Angeles has stood out as the most enriching experience where the diversity of events and the warmth of the community makes being a member and a CFA Charterholder truly rewarding.

Acevedo says volunteering with CFA Society Los Angeles has been an incredible journey since he started volunteering in 2018. From contributing to alternative investment panels, lending a hand at the annual golf tournament, and supporting CFA prep programs at USC, each moment has been fulfilling. Most recently, LACERA and CFA Society Los Angeles teamed up to create a series of DEI-related roundtables focused on sharing knowledge on various DEI-related topics. These successful roundtables culminated in the establishment of the Virtual DEI annual conference. “The team at LACERA has been pivotal in the development of the roundtables and virtual conference and the success is a reflection of their dedicated team work and collegiality,” shares Acevedo.

“The CFA Society Los Angeles councils are driven by passionate members who genuinely care about delivering high-quality content. Their dedication is evident, as volunteers go above and beyond to ensure that every member has the best possible experience with the society. It's heartwarming to witness the genuine effort and sincere desire to create a community that is beneficial and enjoyable for everyone involved,” says Acevedo.

When providing advice to young professionals hesitant to join or get involved, Acevedo adds, “the benefits of joining the LA Society far outweigh the costs with over 100 events a year on diverse topics. Within three events, you would recoup the cost of joining, but you will also have gained additional contacts, and friends, in your network.” For current members who are relatively inactive, Acevedo wants to remind you of the great events happening in our community. “From insightful seminars to fun networking opportunities, there is always something interesting going on. Plus, your perspective and contributions have always been valued here.”

Volunteerism is important to Acevedo because it is a way to give back. He has been active in volunteering for other organizations like the University of Chicago Booth School of Business both as an alumnus and while he was an MBA student (from student tour guide to vice president of the alumni group). Acevedo says, “In general, I think there is value in giving back and being engaged in the communities we represent.”

While the year is moving fast, it is never too late to hop on board. If you are a new society member, Acevedo will tell you to “try attending events or volunteering at least once, maybe twice. If you don’t like it, then maybe volunteering is not for you; however, there is a decent chance that you will enjoy the events and the people you encounter at them. Plus, Laura and her staff are awesome!”