

Articles of Appreciation™

Attitude:

Blame nothing and no one. Blame is a sorry substitute for solutions. Make moves, not excuses.

Take 100% responsibility. When you do so, everything either becomes a win or another amazing opportunity to learn, and failure will cease to exist.

Celebrate often. You can either play the role of the victim or that of the victor, but it is impossible to do both – this is a fact. Live inside of the bright spots and maximize on your strengths and available resources.

Action:

Wrestle with a book. Supplemental personal and professional development texts will complement and rapidly accelerate your hands-on learning. However, it takes more than skimming its chapters to absorb any good book's ideas. You must be a true pupil. Immerse yourself in it, engage it, grapple with it, allow it to shake you, ask questions of it, draw keen insights, and be mindful to take critical notes.

Ask how. Complainers too often ask why: Why is this happening, why me, why, God? Conversely, know-it-alls often reject novel ideas by judging: That won't work for me, that won't work for my industry, that's something I already tried. Legit creative problem solvers focus instead on the *how*. How does that work, how can I make it work for me, how can I connect the dots?

Abide by the Golden Rule. Live and breathe by the mantra: "What I want for myself, I want for everybody." That means, as much as you would like to receive thanks, praise, help, valuable introductions, compensation, referrals and positive reviews, you should also be regularly offering thanks, praise, help, valuable introductions, compensation, referrals and positive reviews. Share the wealth. What goes around, comes around.

Absolutely Not:

Assholes need not apply (Sorry — there is no nicer way to say it). **Art of Hustle®** aims to cultivate a community of support, both online and in real time. Jerks are not welcomed; e.g. individuals of ill repute, that talk trash, point fingers, break agreements, mistreat staff or service professionals of any type, disparage those less fortunate, or have any track record of haterade, bullying, power tripping, or general misanthropy. We work only with professionals of the highest character and ethical standards.

Accept the challenge:

Don't die wondering. The difference between who you are and who you want to be is *what you do*. Rise to the occasion. Upgrading your mental acuity and developing your practice is one of the most exciting, frightening, humbling, and entirely worthwhile pursuits of your life and career. It is a benefit to everyone in our numerous communities that we each seek to fulfill this highest version of ourselves. As the saying goes, don't die with your music still inside you.

