

## Maria Rueters

Rueters-Ward Services

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## Curriculum Vitae

**Andrew Haskell Library for the Blind**

Volunteer Instructor

**New York, NY**

February 2024 – present

Part-time instructor for Braille for blind adults.

**Vibrant** <https://www.mabcommunity.org/vibrant/>

Volunteer Instructor

**Brookline, MA**

January 2020 – December 2023

Instructor in accessibility technologies for seniors.

**Carroll Center for Blind**

Professional Teaching Staff

<https://carroll.org/>

**Newton MA**

September 2005 -- November 2019 (retired)

Instructor in residential program for adult students who had lost or who were losing vision / legally blind. Accessibility technologies for computers and other devices; Braille reading and writing; general living skills. Accessibility technologies included JAWS (Windows PC), VoiceOver (MAC and iPhone/iPad), NVDA (Windows PCs), TalkBack (Android phone, for students who used Android devices), Alexa (voice-controlled computers), special accessible technical devices for the blind (note-takers, etc.).

(\*) (Note: Please be sure to spell this correctly.)

**Carroll Center for Blind** <https://carroll.org/> **Newton MA**  
Instructor Summer 2003, Summer 2004, Summer 2005

Instructor in computer accessibility and other accessible devices for the blind in Carroll Center summer camp for legally-blind and fully-blind high school students.

**VIBUG** (“Visually-Impaired/Blind User Group”) **Boston, MA**  
Organization serving blind and visually -mpaired users of computers and other assistive technology.

Member 1995-present  
President 2002-2005

Technical presentations on accessibility technologies for blind and visual-impaired person. More presentation have included

- BlindShell smartphone with tactile user interface for blind users who find it difficult to use a touchscreen with a screen reader.
- Hoopla Digital Library – presentation on using these services with accessibility technologies.
- Garage Band music production app – use with accessibility technologies.
- BlindSquare: special GPS navigation app for the blind.

Audio recordings of all presentations can be found on the VIBUG web site <http://vibug.org>. (Note: the web site is designed to be fully-accessible for all users for all screen readers: thus it makes minimal use of graphics.)

**Private Tutoring** **Arlington, MA**  
February 2002 – June 2004

Private tutoring in use of computer accessibility technology with low-vision (legally blind) and totally blind senior citizens in the Boston area

**Macromedia (formerly Allaire Corporation),** **Newton MA**  
Senior SQA Engineer April 2000 – January 2002

Responsibilities include writing test plans and developing and implementing automated tests as well as manual testing for the Visual Tools, code-based Web development tools such as ColdFusion Studio and Jrun Studio. Developed automated tests of an interactive JSP/Java development environment using COM interfaces and scripting languages (Jscript and VB Script).

**Thomson Financial,**  
SQA Engineer

**Boston MA**  
June 1996 – March 2000

Responsibilities include writing test plans, and developing and implementing automated tests, for financial-publishing Web products, implemented as 3-tiered client server systems (web browser / Windows client, web server, database server). Test development under Unix and Windows. Automated generation of predictable test data for searching, including full-text searching. Wrote extensive scripts in k-shell and Perl with embedded SQL scripts to access data in the Sybase and Fulcrum SQL databases. Recently started test automation with SilkTest for web client. Projects also required basic facility with HTML, Java, and other tools.

**Alva Access Technologies / Outspoken**

Independent contractor

1996

Testing and review of pre-release accessible technology products for Windows platforms for a Dutch software company.

**Intermetrics Inc.,**

**Cambridge MA**

QA Engineer, permanent part time (60 % of full time) March 1981 to June 1996

Most of my work at Intermetrics was in software QA and test engineering. Responsible for writing test plans, developing code-generation and language compliance tests, analyzing and reporting test results, for compilers and related tools such as debuggers, simulators and assemblers for proprietary chips. Also responsible for performance testing of compilers.

Development projects included enhancement and maintenance of program library tools, re-implementation of code development tools from “C” to Ada, porting a C compiler to the Mac platform. Designed and implemented GUI front-end under X-Windows to Ada database tool.

**Carl-Strehl-Schule,**

**Marburg, Germany**

September 1977 to July 1980

Teaching position at junior high and high-school levels, university-track curriculum.

I taught math and German to students in grades 7 through 13. My work also included the first introduction of a computer to the school curriculum and the development of a course in the programming language Basic.

Also, private tutoring of high-school students during university studies.

**EDUCATION**

1970, graduated Carl-Strehl-Schule, Marburg, Germany.

The Carl-Strehl-Schule is a 13-grade university-track residence school ("Gymnasium") for the visually impaired.

1976, First State Exam in Education majoring in math and German literature at the Philipps University, Marburg, Germany.

1977, Second State Exam in Education, State of Hesse, Germany.

(This was considered equivalent to a thesis-oriented American Master's degree). Major thesis topic in the mathematics department.

1980/81, computer science courses at Boston University (Pascal, Data Structures, 370 programming)

**OTHER SKILLS**

Fluent in German, basic knowledge of Spanish. Familiar with different varieties of computer access technologies for the visually impaired.

**REFERENCES**

(Available upon request.)

**CITIZENSHIP**

German Citizen.  
Permanent US resident since 1980 ("green card").