

## **Brenda Schertz, ASL Senior Lecturer**

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### **Education and Certifications**

<b>MA</b>	Gallaudet University Washington, D.C. 2013	<i>Sign Language Education</i>
<b>BFA</b>	Art Institute of Boston Boston, MA 1996	<i>Graphic Design</i>
<b>CDI</b>	Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf 2008	
<b>Professional Certification</b>	American Sign Language Teachers Association 2014	

### **Professional Experience**

#### **Senior Lecturer, American Sign Language, 2019-current**

*Cornell University, Ithaca, NY*

- Teach ASL 1101 and 1102

#### **Senior Lecturer, American Sign Language Program, 2016-2019**

*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY*

- Teach ASL 101, 102, 105, 106, ASL 204 Theory and Practice of Sign Language Interpreting and ASL 205 Art of Translation courses
- Participate in curriculum development for ASL courses

#### **Lecturer, American Sign Language and Interpreting Education, 2014-2016**

*National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester, NY*

- Taught ASL I, II and IV courses
- Taught and team led Interpreting IV course
- Participated in curriculum development for ASL I, II and IV courses
- Participated in the department's new Deaf Interpreter curriculum and proposal development

#### **Coordinator and Lecturer, American Sign Language Program, 2002-2014**

*University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME*

- Recruited and trained teachers, and provided curricula and support.
- Developed courses for program to fit national standards and university needs.
- Taught intensive one week long Certified Deaf Interpreting (CDI) Preparation for Knowledge Exam Workshops since 2004
  - Recruited and publicized this workshop attracting participants across the country
  - Developed study packets, PowerPoint presentations and practice exam questions participants can use to prepare for the CDI Knowledge Exam
  - Provided opportunities to workshop participants to take the CDI Knowledge and Performance exams at USM setting up USM as a convenient location to complete their certification process
- Incorporated community service learning model in upper-level ASL courses by having students interact with Deaf community members.
- Collaborated with area agencies in providing volunteer opportunities for students.
- Established and coordinate the annual Maine Deaf Film Festival completed its 12<sup>th</sup> year.
  - Brought in approximately 150 people each year.

- Mobilized support and funding from USM's Board of Student Organizations, Portland Events Board and local organizations for a filmmaker to serve as guest speaker.
- Coordinated sponsorships to supplement the film festival's budget
- Received \$500 grant from Center for Teaching's Community Building Grant for a press conference and film preview for students, Linguistics Department faculty, and community members in 2007.
- Initiated USM's American Sign Language Assessment Interview for students prior to their Level 3 and interpreting courses.
- Received \$2,500 USM Faculty Technology grant to purchase site license of ASL Video Dictionary and Inflection Guide at the computer lab in 2005.
- Collaborated with Massachusetts' Mentorship Program for a workshop series designed specifically for ASL mentors from Massachusetts and Maine, to work with beginner interpreters for the NOTYET program; supported in part by a \$500 USM Provost's Fellowship Grant.
- Organized ASL Club's fall presentation series featuring Deaf individuals:
  - Little Theatre of the Deaf, 2012
  - Robert DeMayo, performer and storyteller, 2010
  - Trudy Suggs, writer and business owner, 2006
  - Gina Oliva, author, *Alone in the Mainstream*, 2005
  - Chuck Baird, Deaf artist, 2004
  - Heidi Zimmer, Deaf mountain climber, 2003
- Created MaineASL@yahoo.com, an Internet community of Maine ASL teachers.
- Organized the first statewide meeting of sign language teachers in 2004.

#### **American Sign Language Adjunct Instructor, 1999-2001**

*Emerson College, Boston, MA*

- Taught Introduction to ASL 1 courses

#### **Project Co-Director, *Elements of a Culture: Visions by Deaf Artists*, 1999-2001**

*Northeastern University, Boston, MA*

- Organized and curated a touring Deaf Artists Exhibit highlighting the Deaf experience; exhibit traveled to:
  - Seattle, WA
  - Rochester, NY
  - Boston, MA
  - Newport, KY
  - Miami, FL
  - Denver, CO
  - Brooklyn, MI
- Had a website developed for the touring exhibit
- Organized a call for entries and made selections for the exhibit.
- Developed the exhibit catalog and designed the exhibit poster.
- Performed budgeting, fundraising, evaluation and publicity activities.
- Collaborated with Deaf community members at each site for docent training and organizing the opening reception

#### **American Sign Language Adjunct Instructor, 1994-2001**

*Northeastern University, Boston, MA*

- Taught Introduction to ASL 1 and 2 and Intermediate ASL 2 courses.
- Co-taught *Deaf People in Society* course with Dennis Cokely.
- Coordinated placement for Deaf Community practicum students.
- Developed class syllabi, exams, video evaluation forms, study guides, a volunteer database and a video/reading materials list.

#### **Family Sign Language Program Director, 1998-1999**

*Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf, Malden, MA*

- Coordinated sign language teacher placement and scheduling for approximately 40 to 50 families with deaf children annually.
- Trained and evaluated teachers.

- Maintained contact with families and early intervention programs.
- Informed early intervention programs and parents of options and resources for their children.
- Monitored annual budget of \$100,000, handled monthly billing for Department of Public Health and wrote an annual report.

### **Information Specialist, 1994-1998**

*Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Boston, MA*

- Responded to approximately 800 to 900 inquiries annually from professionals, consumers, staff, state agencies and businesses.
- Organized development, research, revision and dissemination of Information Series materials.
- Coordinated volunteers for the Resource Library and files, along with compiling and maintaining information for the Statewide Resource Directory.

### **American Sign Language Adjunct Instructor, Spring Semester 1994**

*Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA*

- Taught Introduction to ASL 1 and 2 and Intermediate ASL 1 and 2 courses.

### **Adult Continuing Education Coordinator, 1989-1993**

*DEAF Inc., Allston, MA*

- Coordinated and obtained supplementary funding for educational programs for as many as 150 Deaf adults each year. Courses included:
  - Basic Everyday Math
  - Citizenship
  - English
  - ASL
  - Driver's Education
- Initiated an ongoing relationship with the Brookline Adult and Community Education Program for additional classes.
- Collaborated with Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts to develop a curriculum for training literacy volunteers working with Deaf adults.
- Oversaw outreach, publicity and teacher recruitment and supervision.

## **Curations**

*Beyond Form: Abstract Art by Deaf Artists* (2018, March-April). Dyer Arts Center, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester, NY.

De'VIA Exhibit (2012, March). ASL Fest, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX.

*De'VIA Revisited: 1993-2008 Northern Essex Community College Reflects on the Past 15 Years in Deaf Art*, (2008, September). Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA.

De'VIA Exhibit. (2008, April). Woodbury Museum, Utah Valley University, Orem, UT.

*Elements of a Culture: Visions by Deaf Artists*. (1999-2001). First National Touring Exhibit of Deaf Culture Art.

*20 Deaf Artists: Common Motifs*. (1999, April). ProArts Gallery, Oakland, CA.

DEAFestival Art Exhibit (1998, September). Kentucky Arts Center, Louisville, KY.

*Deaf Artists' Exhibit: A Perspective of Deaf Culture*. (1995, April). Deaf Studies Conference IV, Woburn, MA.

*Deaf Artists' Exhibit: A Perspective of Deaf Culture.* (1993, September). Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA.

## Courses Taught

(+Revised \*Developed)

### University of Southern Maine

ASL 101: American Sign Language, Beginning 1+  
ASL 102: American Sign Language, Beginning 2+  
ASL 201: American Sign Language, Intermediate 1+  
ASL 202: American Sign Language, Intermediate 2+  
ASL 303: Deaf Art, Film and Theater \*  
ASL 401: American Sign Language, Advanced 1\*  
ASL 402: American Sign Language, Advanced 2\*  
LIN 203: Introduction to the Deaf World+  
LIN 236: NOTYET Ready for Prime Time Interpreting\*  
LIN 425: Certified Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Exam Preparation\*

### National Technical Institute for the Deaf/Rochester Institute of Technology

MLAS 201: Beginning American Sign Language I  
MLAS 202: Beginning American Sign Language II  
MLAS 302: Intermediate American Sign Language II  
INTP 440: Interpreting IV, Adapting to Diverse Consumers\*

### University of Rochester

ASL 101 Beginning American Sign Language I  
ASL 102 Beginning American Sign Language II  
ASL 105 Intermediate American Sign Language I  
ASL 106 Intermediate American Sign Language II  
ASL 204 Practice and Theory of Sign Language Interpreting  
ASL 205 Art of Translation

## Community Involvement

### University of Rochester

- **ASL Consultant**, *Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.* International Theatre Program, Todd Theater, November-December 2018.

### National Technical Institute for the Deaf

- **Board member**, American Sign Language Teachers Association, 2015-present
- **Founder** and advisor, ASL club, 2015-2016.
- **Search Committee**, Sunshine Too, September 2015-January 2016.

### University of Southern Maine

- **Coordinator**, Maine Deaf Film Festival, 2002-2014.
- **Advisor**, American Sign Language Club, 2002-2014.
  - Promoting ASL, Deaf Culture and Deaf People Award from the Maine Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened, 2009.
  - Outstanding Club Award, Best Representative and Perfect Attendance from the Board of Student Organizations, 2007.
- **Member**, President's Council on Diversity, 2005-2008.

### Community

- **Co-Chair, Deaf Rochester Film Festival, 2017.**
- **Founder** and member of Deaf Women of Maine, 2005-2014.
- **American Sign Language Docent**, Victoria Mansion, Portland, ME. 2002-2014.

- **Co-chair**, Deaf Women United National Conference, Portland, ME, 2011.
- **Board Member**, Deaf Women United, 2009-2011.
- **Chair**, Annual Pizza and Ice Cream Party, Deaf Women of Maine, 2006-2010.
- **Co-chair**, Deaf Women of New England Conference, Ogunquit, ME. November 2006.
- **Board Member**, Baxter Compensation Authority, 2002-2006.
- **Consultant**, Portland Stage Company, Sign Language Interpreted Performances, Portland, ME. 2002-2010.

### Grants, Awards and Honors

- Center for Teaching's Community Building Grant, \$500. University of Southern Maine, 2007.
- Outstanding Role Model for the Deaf Community Award. Maine Division of Deafness. 2007.
- Outstanding Faculty/Staff Involvement Award. USM Student Involvement Recognition Night. 2006.
- Provost's Fellowship Grant, \$500. University of Southern Maine, 2006.
- Faculty Technology Grant, \$2,500. University of Southern Maine, 2005.
- Laurent Clerc Service Award. Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf. 2000.
- Deaf Woman of the Year Award. Education and the Arts, Quota International, Inc. 1995.

### Published Articles

Schertz, B., & Lane, H. (1999, Fall-2001, Winter). Elements of a culture: Visions by Deaf Artists. *Visual Anthropology Review*, 15(2), pp. 20-26.

Schertz, B. (1999). 20 deaf artists: Common motifs. In College of Continuing Education (Ed.). *Deaf studies IV: Making the connection*, 1999 conference proceedings (pp. 417-440). Washington DC: Gallaudet University.

### Presentations/Workshops

Co-presenter, *Introduction to Deaf Interpreting Workshop*. (2016, July, 2017, June, 2018 June and November). National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester, NY. (Six-day workshop).

#### **Invited**

*CDIs in Medical Settings* (2018, June). Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, NY.

*ASLTA Certification System*. (2017, October). Greater Rochester Chapter of ASLTA, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester NY.

*Working with Sign Language Interpreters - Based on Matt Daigle's Cartoons*. (2016, September). Rochester Deaf Awareness Week, Brighton Public Library, Rochester, NY.

*Learning about Jewish Traditions*. (2015, April). Student Life Team, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester, NY.

*CDI Knowledge Exam Preparation Workshop*. (2013, December). Road to Deaf Interpreting, Holy Cross College, Worcester, MA.

*Interpreting Historical or General Facts into ASL*. (2013, September). Holy Cross College, Worcester, MA.  
*Deaf Art Through Time*. (2012, March). ASL Fest! Gallaudet University Regional Center (GURC) and Austin Community College (ACC). Austin, TX.

*Viewing Deaf Culture through Deaf Art: Deaf Artists and De'VIA*. (2010, September). Community Colleges of Baltimore County, Catonsville, MD.

*How Has Deaf Art Changed the Last Fifteen Years?* (2010, July). DeafNation World Expo, Las Vegas, NV.

*Viewing Deaf Culture through Deaf Art: Deaf Artists and De'VIA.* (2008, October). Vermont Deaf Expo, Brattleboro, VT.

*Viewing Deaf Culture through Deaf Art, Deaf Artists and De'VIA.* (2008, September). Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, NY.

*De'VIA Revisited: 1993-2008.* (2008, September). Northern Essex Community College Reflects on the Past 15 Years in Deaf Art, Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (2008, July). Summer Interpreter Workshops, Pride Camp, New Durham, NH.

*Interpreting Historical or General Facts into ASL.* (2007, June). Maine Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME.

*Contemporary Deaf Films Around the World.* (2007, June). Maine Association of the Deaf 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference, Augusta, ME.

*Interpreting Historical or General Facts into ASL workshop.* (2007, April). Massachusetts Mentorship Program, Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2006, June). Deaf Culture Centre, Toronto, Canada.

*De'VIA workshop for Deaf Artists.* (2006, June). Deaf Culture Centre, Toronto, Canada.

*ASL Mentoring Workshop.* (2004, June). Maine Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2004, June). Manchester Public School Deaf Program, Manchester, NH.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2004, May). Opening Reception Presenter, Deaf Way Illinois, Rosemont, IL.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2004, April). St. Paul, MN.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2004, February). Introduction to the Deaf World course, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2003, November). New Hampshire Association of the Deaf Convention, Manchester, NH.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2003, July). National Technical Institute for the Deaf 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion, Rochester, NY.

*Deaf Culture: Why We Celebrate.* (2003, April). Disability and Family in a Multicultural Society course, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME.

*Understanding the Process.* (2003, March). Co-presenter with Echo Kaply Smith. Baxter Compensation Authority Forum, University of Maine, Augusta, ME.

*ASL in Art.* (2003, February). Presenter and Discussion Moderator, California State University, Northridge, CA.

*Practice Using Numbers in Space.* (2003, February). Maine Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Augusta, ME.

*Deaf Culture: Why We Celebrate.* (2002, September). Keynote presenter, Deaf Awareness Tea at the Blaine House, Division of Deafness, Augusta, ME.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2001, October). University of New Hampshire, Manchester, NH.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2001, May). York University, Toronto, Canada.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2000, October). Deaf Services & Technology Expo, Holy Cross College, Worcester, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (2000, July). Guest Lecturer, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA.

*Touring Exhibit of Deaf Culture Art.* (2000, May). DeaFestival, Covington, KY.

*Touring Exhibit of Deaf Culture Art.* (2000, April). Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2000, April). University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2000, April). Boston University, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (2000, April). Guest Lecturer, Emerson College, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (2000, March). Guest Lecturer, Accelerated Learning Lab, Worcester, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (2000, March). Guest Lecturer, Day Middle School, Newton, MA.

*Deaf Art: Visualizing Deaf Culture.* (2000, February). Panara Theatre, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester, NY.

*Deaf Art.* (2000, May). Guest Lecturer, Deaf People in Society course, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Culture: Access and the Arts.* (1999, November). Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (1999, October). Guest Lecturer, Deaf People in Society course, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (1999, May). Guest Lecturer, Deaf People in Society course, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Culture: Access and the Arts.* (1999, April). New England Technical Assistance Center, Boston, MA.

*Deaf Art.* (1999, March). Guest Lecturer, Gallaudet University, Washington, DC.

*Deaf Art.* (1999, February). Guest Lecturer, Newton North High School, Newton, MA.

*The Three Boxes of Life.* (1998, May). Maine Center on Deafness, Portland, ME.

*Deaf Art.* (1995, July). Quota International 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.

*Communication Access in Museums.* (1994, February). Co-presented with Ruth Moore. Smith College Art Museum, Northampton, MA.

*A Perspective of Deaf Culture Through Art: How Do We See It?* (1993, September). Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA.

*Deaf Arts and Culture*. (1989, April). Guest Lecturer, Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA.

### **Conferences**

Schertz, B. (2013, July). Embedding Community Service Learning in your ASL Program, *American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA)*, Charlotte, NC.

Schertz, B. & Lipsky, L. (2012, November). Standards in Establishing an American Sign Language Program, *American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Conference (ACTFL)*, Philadelphia, PA.

Schertz, B., McCarthy, P., & Sanders, C. (2011, November). American Sign Language Outcomes Pilot Project, *American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Conference (ACTFL)*, Denver, CO.

Schertz, B. (2008, April). How Has Deaf Art Changed the Last Fifteen Years? *Deaf Studies Today Conference*, Utah Valley University, Orem. UT.

Schertz, B., & Tully, L. (2003, March). Working with Deaf People, *15<sup>th</sup> Annual Maine Deaf Services Conference*, Governor Baxter School for the Deaf, Portland, ME.

Schertz, B. (2003, March). Quantifiers and Scope in American Sign Language, *Semantics of Under-represented Languages in the Americas Conference*, University of British Columbia, Canada.

Schertz, B. (1995, November). Museum Access for People Who Are Deaf, Leading the Parade: Museums at the Vanguard of Community Change, *New England Museum Association Annual Conference*, Springfield, MA.

Schertz, B., Vesey, K., & Le Marbre, J. (1994, April). ASL to ESL: Implications for the Deaf Adult Learner, *Massachusetts Association for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages*, Spring Conference, Roxbury Community College, Roxbury, MA.

Schertz, B., Vesey, K., & Le Marbre, J. (1992, October). ASL to ESL: Implications for the Deaf Adult Learner, *Massachusetts Association for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages*, New England Conference of Teachers of English, Marlboro, MA.

### **Panels, etc.**

**Debriefing Facilitator.** (2016, August). *Deaf Strong Hospital 2016*, Strong Hospital, National Center for Deaf Health Research, Rochester, NY.

**Debriefing Facilitator.** (2016, March). *Deaf, Deaf World*, Greek Life, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester, NY

**Panelist.** (2015, June). *Fast Forward: ASL 2026*, American Sign Language Teachers Conference, Bloomington, MN.

**Panelist.** (2015, April). *Future of American Sign Language*, American Sign Language Festival, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

**Panelist.** (2011, February). *Disability, Identity & Community: Feminist Perspectives*, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME.



**Moderator.** (2008, April). *Deaf Artists' Panel*, Dishman Museum, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.

**Panelist.** (2001, June). Film discussion: *Sound and Fury*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA.

**Panelist.** (1999, April). *Art Criticism and History: Deaf View/Image Art's Contribution to Deaf Studies*, Deaf Studies Conference VI: Making the Connection, Oakland, CA.

**Moderator.** (1998, May). Leadership and Development Workshop, DEAF Inc., Pittsfield, MA.

**Moderator.** (1995, April). *Deaf View/Image Art, Deaf Studies Conference IV: Visions of the Past, Visions for the Future*, Boston, MA.

**Moderator.** (1995, February). Film discussion: *For a Deaf Son*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA.

**Moderator.** (1994, November). Film discussion: *In the Land of the Deaf*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA.

## Media

### Television and Webcasts

**Interviewee.** (2015, June). *American Sign Language Teachers Conference*. June 29, 2015. 13:39-14:05. iDeaf News World Wide News for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

<http://ideafnews.com/2015/06/29/2015-american-sign-language-teacher-association-conference-reflect-celebrate-dream-june-24-27-2015/>

**Actor.** (2012). Captioning public service announcement, WCSH6, Portland, ME.

**Interviewee.** (2012, March). *Hundreds Expected to Attend ASLFest 2012*. KTBC 7 Fox, Austin, TX.

**Interviewee.** (2009, March). *Maine Deaf Film Festival*, WCSH6.com, Portland, ME.

**Interviewee.** (2008, September). *De'VIA Revisited: 1993-2008, Northern Essex Community College Reflects on the Past 15 Years in Deaf Art*, www.deafnation.com.

**Interviewee.** (2000, April). *Visions by Deaf Artists*, Greater Boston Arts, WGBH, Boston, MA.

**Interviewee.** (1989). *Deaf Way*, Deaf Mosaic, Gallaudet University, Washington DC.

**Actor.** (1988). *When Shlemiel Went to Warsaw*, Hey Listen, Rochester, NY.

**Interviewee.** (1987). *Boston Theatre of the Deaf*, Channel 56, Boston, MA.

**Interviewee.** (1987). *Boston Theatre of the Deaf*, Neighborhood Cable News, Boston, MA.