

PROFESSIONAL & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Newsletter Editor

June 2026 – Present

Friends of the Libraries, Kona (F.O.L.K.) – Kailua-Kona, HI

Volunteer Board of Directors & President

March 2024 – June 2026

President March 2024 – September 2025

Friends of the Kaʻu Libraries – Naʻalehu, HI

Volunteer Board Meeting Videographer

2024 – Present

Discovery Harbour Community Association – Naʻalehu, HI

Volunteer Tutor & Special Education Advocate

August 2017 – Present

Family Assistant – Honolulu, HI

- Tutors a non-native-English-speaking parent's son who is identified as having a learning disability.
- In School Year 2017-2018, homeschooled the 11- year-old child who learned to read, typing and computer fluency, basic math, and organizational and critical thinking skills, yoga, and swimming.
- Collaborated with Special Education teacher in SY 2018-19 to help the student close Language Arts and Math achievement gaps by two to three grade levels.
- Attends all student IEP meetings, and assists parent in advocating that the child's needs be met.
- Assists parent in finding services and programs in the community to benefit the child's development.
- This relationship is ongoing until the student graduates in 2027 from Palo Alto High School in California. Tutoring, IEP team meetings, and communication with the student, teachers, and IDEA case worker is accomplished via email, video conferencing, and phone calls.

Private Music Teacher

2017 – 2023

Oahu, HI

- Keyboard & piano students' performance videos of are posted here: youtube.com/@geekgirlartist
- The show must go on! Distance-learning piano lessons during COVID-19 shut down included Google meet video sessions with student written assignment and teacher corrections shared via Google Drive.

Volunteer Membership Committee Chair

2017 – 2019

Hawai'i State Association of Parliamentarians – Honolulu, HI

- Responsible for building and maintaining the membership of the HSAP.

Volunteer School Community

2016 - 2017

Prince Kuhio Elementary School - Honolulu, HI

- Participated in Kuhio School Community Council as a community stakeholder. Advised the SCC on parliamentary procedure for conducting meetings.
- Tutored special education students after school.
- Wrote Weighted Student Formula Reserve Funds application with Principal's input resulting in a \$28,000 award to the school for School Year 2017-2018.

District Precinct 21-01 Precinct Chair

2014 Primary and 2016 General Elections

State of Hawai'i Office of Elections – Honolulu, HI

- Managed polling place set up and operation.
- Responsible for the security and integrity of ballots issued and votes cast.

Volunteer BOE Watch Facebook Page Facilitator

2015 – Present

BOE Watch – Honolulu, HI

- Facilitate Facebook Group: facebook.com/groups/BOEWatch
- Supplied public, on-demand videos of State of Hawai'i Board of Education General Business and Committee meetings 2014-2016. To read more here: **Click here.**
- Led a network of volunteer videographers.
- Created and maintained web page, Facebook group, and YouTube channels to provide easy access to BOE meeting videos.

District Precinct 22-01 Precinct Official

2012 Primary and General Elections

State of Hawai'i Office of Elections – Honolulu, HI**Grade 6 Math & Science Teacher**

2010 – 2012

Grade 3 Elementary Teacher

2007 - 2010

State of Hawai'i DOE Na'alehu Elementary School – Na'alehu, HI

- Licensed by State of Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board in elementary education 2007 – 2012.
- Fulfilled all duties of a full-time teacher in a high-need public school.
- Served as elected Hawaii State Teachers Association school level leader on Association Policy Committee.
- Applied for and received \$3,000 *Good Idea Grant*.

Private Care Manager (for disabled mother's care)

2009 – 2010

Rose Else – Na'alehu, HI

After mother had a stroke and was paralyzed, she required 24/7 attention. Vanessa Ott purchased a 3-bedroom home with her husband and directed retrofitting of the building for handicapped accessibility.

- Managed a staff of full-time and part-time caregivers.
- Established efficient communications protocols for employees, and trained staff to use the private online Yahoo Group to share information and track patient's progress.
- Advertised and conducted interviews to hire personnel.

- Oversaw all financial aspects of care home including payroll, worker's compensation and unemployment insurance, and taxes.
- Responsible for acquisition of all food, supplies, equipment, and assistive devices for care home.

Software Instructor

2007

Kona School for Adults – Kailua-Kona, HI

- Developed curriculum and delivered instruction for Microsoft Excel adult night class.

Gifted and Talented Resource Teacher; Assistant Technical Coordinator

2006 – 2007

State of Hawai'i DOE Kealahou Elementary School – Kailua-Kona, HI

- Assisted Grade 3, 5, and 6 Gifted & Talented teachers with student instruction.
- Edited Complex Area's new GT program requirements into readable forms and instructions.
- Created school GT program web site to provide public access to GT program information.
- Provided school-wide technical support of Macintosh and Windows computers, projectors, printers, and telephone system.
- Developed school inventory tracking system and cataloged all electronic equipment on campus.

Technical Instructor

1999 – 2002

Genesys Telecommunications Laboratories, Inc. – San Francisco, CA

- Delivered software instruction at Genesys University, the training center for this global leader in large-scale Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software systems.
- Revised curriculum for Genesys Professional and Genesys Software Development courses.

IT Support

1998 – 1999

Monster Inc. - Brisbane, CA

- Maintained computer systems and provided computer technical support for world renowned manufacturer of high-end audio products.
- Developed curriculum and instructed employees in optimum use of Microsoft Office software.

Technical Support Agent

1997 - 1998

Wells Fargo Online – San Francisco, CA

- Provided telecommunications support for Wells Fargo Online Consumer Banking customers.

Technical Support Agent

1995 - 1997

Institute for Global Communications – San Francisco, CA

- Provided telecommunications support for customers of formative non-profit internet service provider bringing advanced communications technologies to grassroots organizations worldwide working for environmental sustainability, women's rights, conflict resolution and worker rights.
- Served as SEIU Local 79 shop steward for first U.S. internet service provider to unionize (1996).

Owner of Independent Audio & Video Production Company

1990 - 1994

Silk Media – Ukiah, CA

- Performed all phases of production for music videos, local television commercials, product demos, instructional videos, and audio CDs including camera operation, scheduling video shoots, scriptwriting, and audio/video editing.
- Managed financial operations of the business.
- Developed customer contacts, created and maintained web site, and marketed the business.

Senior Editor

1985 - 1990

Electronic Musician Magazine – Ukiah and Berkeley, CA

- Co-created critically-acclaimed monthly magazine for musical electronics enthusiasts. *Electronic Musician* magazine continued publication until August 2023.
- Developed and maintained relationships with authors and musical electronics manufacturers.
- Edited technical manuscripts for publication.
- Represented Electronic Musician at national and international trade shows.

Assistant Editor

1983 - 1985

Polyphony Magazine – Ukiah, CA

- Edited technical manuscripts for bi-monthly publication geared toward musical electronics engineers and enthusiasts. Polyphony magazine became Electronic Musician magazine in 1985.
- Utilized small business computers to receive submissions from authors and transmitted edited articles to Polyphony Publishing, Oklahoma City, OK via the internet.

EDUCATION

Certificate: Parliamentary Procedure, 2013**University of Hawai'i Center for Labor Education & Research – West O'ahu, HI**

Two continuing education credits for 20 hours of organized instruction in Parliamentary Procedure with a focus on Robert's Rules of Order.

Certificate: Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, 2005**California State University, East Bay – Hayward, CA**

NCATE-accredited, BCLAD English learner authorized, elementary school teacher credential program.

Computer Programming and Networking, 1997 - 1999**San Francisco City College – San Francisco, CA**

Classes in web site design, computer programming, networking, systems analysis, and computer hardware maintenance. (27 credits)

Bachelor of Science, Music and Audio Electronics Engineering, 1983**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – Urbana, IL**

Alumni of the University of Illinois Experimental Music Studios.

High School Diploma: 1977**Eastern High School – Gibbsboro, NJ**