

Judy Brewer

**Director of the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)
at the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
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Bio

Judy Brewer directs the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) at the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). Her work includes coordinating development of accessibility standards, guidelines and best practices for digital technologies, including the web, mobile, digital publishing, virtual reality, and other technologies that are converging on the web. It includes coordinating improvement of resources for evaluation of web sites, education and outreach resources, research which will impact future web accessibility. It includes promoting harmonization of web accessibility standards internationally.

WAI guidelines include the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1, which has been adopted by many governments around the world; the Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines and User Agent Accessibility Guidelines; and Accessible Rich Internet Applications (WAI-ARIA). W3C WAI standards and guidelines have been taken up by many organizations and governments around the world, to help ensure equal access for people with disabilities.

Current interests include expanding access to digital accessibility for people in under-resourced regions and communities around the world, and exploring the potential of virtual meetings and gatherings to improve connections between people with disabilities and others.

Brewer is a Principal Research Scientist at MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. Prior to joining W3C, she worked on initiatives to increase access to assistive technology and mainstream information and communications technology. She has a background in management, technical writing, education, applied linguistics, disability advocacy, and biotechnology. Awards include the Newell Perry Award from the US National Federation of the Blind in 2014; the Migel Medal from the American Foundation for the Blind in 2015; and the ACM SIGACCESS Award for Outstanding Contributions to Computing and Accessibility in 2018. Her 2019 TEDxMIT talk explores why we need an accessible digital future.