Growing up with a disabled mother, Emily Beitiks witnessed how our society treats people with disabilities. She believes that disability need not be seen as tragedy or pity, and feels that having a disabled mother transformed her for the better. This upbringing motivates her efforts to teach us all how disabled people bring unique value that can benefit us all, not in spite of disability but precisely because of it.

“As a nondisabled ally in the field of disability rights, I’m eager to share with everyone what I’ve been fortunate to learn: that disabled people have expertise, creativity, and value that can benefit us all. I’m very fortunate to get to do this work.”

- Emily Beitiks

Emily Beitiks is Associate Director at the Paul K. Longmore Institute on Disability at San Francisco State University. Founded in 1996 by historian and scholar-activist Paul Longmore, the Longmore Institute uses public education and community events to teach disabled and nondisabled people alike how disability can enrich our world, from technology to the arts.

With a PhD focused on disability studies, Beitiks is an expert on access, assistive technology devices for the disabled, and disability in popular culture. She is a regular blogger, has published op-eds, appeared on live radio, and has offered many quotations for online and print media.

Beitiks has been quoted in:

Office: (415) 405 - 3528
Cell: (415) 684 - 3993
beitiks@sfsu.edu