

To Whom It May Concern:

April 2009

Writing a positive recommendation for Lindsay Jagodowski is an easy task. She has been working with me this past school year as part of her duties as an intern in the Theater and Dance Department at Phillips Exeter Academy. Phillips Exeter Academy is a very competitive, college preparatory boarding high school. Demands on faculty time, expertise and ingenuity are high. Anyone- intern or otherwise- must hit the floor running. A performing arts facilities crunch has stretched the Theater and Dance faculty much too thin and in too many directions. This is what Lindsay Jagodowski walked into this past fall- and she hasn't stopped running since.

Time management skills must be one of Jag's attributes. Her duties at the theater (one end of campus) are many, and then she rushes to the other end of campus to the dance studio in the gym to help me with the dance program. She oversees rehearsals, reorganizes the costume room, designs and prints performance programs, stage manages dance shows- whatever needs to be done. Her willingness to embrace all tasks- large or small, crucial or of minor importance- is greatly appreciated. Her ability to stand back and triage a situation has been very helpful. She often thinks 'outside the box' to find solutions when there appear to be none.

When given a concrete task, Jag (a.k.a. Ms. Jag, as the students call her) jumps in with her usual upbeat attitude. She's self-starting, self-motivated, always looking for creative solutions, but never overstepping- she always keeps everyone in the loop- making sure she's heading in the direction intended.

Performing arts programs are often sidetracked by Murphy's Law. I particularly appreciate that Jag is a Plan B person. She always has in mind a way to accomplish the intended goals if the original plan gets derailed. A perfect example arose in these past few weeks. Our Dance Company captains hoped to encourage company bonding, relaxation and fun by planning a trip to NYC. Although they were encouraged to investigate the details, and were directed as to what those details were that needed attending to, they were very disappointed (although forewarned) that this plan could not be accomplished in a few weeks. When it was evident that this wasn't going to happen, Jag smoothly directed their focus to a more reasonable on-campus Dance Company dinner/ video evening (at her house) followed the next morning by in-house master classes. Lots of lessons were learned by our students and the goal was still accomplished.

As you can see, this easily segues into a comment on the rapport Jag has with our students. She manages to be a supportive friend while at the same time maintaining her role as the must-get-things-done assistant to our department that she needs to be. Jag nourishes her relationships with the adults of our community as well.

Above all, I appreciate, Lindsay Jagodowski's positive attitude. Her goodness and kindness speak volumes as to the person she is. I am a fan of Lindsay Jagodowski.

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