Laguna Beach High School

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To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Lisa Jay. I observed Ms. Jay for the last six years, and I can wholeheartedly say she is a very special and rare artist. She provides a fresh and original approach to the Laguna Beach High School dance program and changed the expectation of dance on our campus. She demonstrates much strength as a teacher and exhibits enormous dedication to students, parents and the community. Additionally, Ms. Jay serves as the department chair for the performing arts and works collaboratively with teachers to provide our students with amazing opportunities in their specialty areas.

Ms. Jay is a marvelous dancer/choreographer; she quickly assesses the level of the students and provides constructive feedback and input. In addition, her classes and rehearsals are meaningful and productive. The dancers positively respond to Ms. Jay and enthusiastically welcome her expertise.

Whether teaching or choreographing, Ms. Jay displays an extraordinary gift in the art of dance. She has a strong sense of musicality and continuity within her choreography and chooses movements the dancers can easily adapt to yet feel challenged by. Her choreography includes wonderful small surprises, and dance images that remain with the audience long after the dance is over. She utilizes lighting, sound, and film elements to achieve further artistic effects and receives rave reviews after each dance show. During one performance, Ms. Jay actually danced in a hip hop piece which surprised the students and thrilled the audience. The students are still talking about her performance and talents as a dancer.

Her teaching style is encouraging, but she demands commitment and dedication from her students. As a result, each student exhibits real progress in technique and performance which, in turn, creates an enormous sense of pride and accomplishment.

I highly recommend Lisa Jay and it would be a privilege to provide further information regarding her strengths and outstanding character. She is a pleasure to have on staff, and she would be an asset to any dance environment. Her dedication, professionalism, passion, enthusiasm, and good nature will make her an excellent teacher/choreographer for your institution.

Sincerely,

Joanne Culverhouse

Dr. Joanne Culverhouse, Ed. D.
Principal