

January 25, 2014



To Whom This May Concern:

It is a genuine honor to write this recommendation on behalf of Ms. Julia Cuppy. I have known Julia for over five years, first from her reputation in our community as the head of the Theater Arts program at Eagle Point High School and, secondly, from my personal experience with her as Craterian Performances' director of our Teen Musical Theater of Oregon.

Julia's reputation as a theater-arts-education-firebrand was well known to me; when I went to see her school's production of *Bye Bye Birdie*, I realized it was more than well earned. She worked in an environment that lacked any meaningful infrastructure, which usually reflects a lack of institutional understanding and support. But that didn't matter to Julia. Time and again, year after year and against all odds, she produced results: results that could be measured by her students' enthusiasm for the program and by the growth and maturation that each exhibited over time. They became better students, and people, and most certainly, better actors, as a result of her determination, tutelage and expertise. She might as well have been working on Broadway in terms of what she expected of her students and herself.

Knowing her reputation and having seen firsthand the fruits of her labor, I hired Julia to direct our production of *The Music Man* for our teen theater program. From her opening remarks at the first company call I knew that the students, the show, and the Craterian's brand couldn't be in better hands. She taught the cast about the time and place that defined Harold Hill's world; in other words, she gave them context. She taught them how to behave in "the room;" in other words, she taught them respect for each other and the process. She taught them how to be better actors; in other words, she gave them specific tools and techniques to improve their performances. And, on top of it all, Julia quickly came to know and nurture each cast member as a person, demonstrating time and again her deep interest in the welfare of her charges.

If there is any chance for Julia to advance her "credentials," so that she can have more opportunities to do most what she does best, it would be in the trade's best interest to accommodate her ambition. If there is any further evidence I can provide in support of her application to your program, please don't hesitate to contact me...I would enthusiastically welcome your call, because I'm a believer.

Sincerely,

Stephen McCandless  
Executive Director

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#### Executive Director

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# Jackson County School District 9

P.O. Box 548  
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March 20, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Julia Cuppy's application for a teaching position in your district. I have known Julia over the past five years in my role as principal of Eagle Point High School and Director of Human Resources for Jackson County School District Nine.

As you see from her curriculum vitae / resume she has had excellent experiences to prepare her for a career in education. She has many years of experience in several different areas of the classroom and during that time she has continued her own growth as a teacher and actor. Mrs. Cuppy and I have only worked together for a few years, but in that time period she has proven herself to be a woman of high integrity and impeccable character. Mrs. Cuppy is not afraid to make decisions, and she is willing to spend the necessary time to build a high quality program. Furthermore, Mrs. Cuppy is thoughtful and considerate when dealing with students, parents, and staff members.

I often tell the story of Mrs. Cuppy's first performance as a teacher at Eagle Point High School. Her students were prepared, the auditorium was set up and waiting for an audience of 500 and everyone was anxious for opening night. Opening night came, and there were about 40 people in attendance. Rather than disappointment, Mrs. Cuppy completed her performance and started planning for the next season. The next season came and attendance doubled! The following season came and attendance doubled again! Our theater department has grown considerably under the direction of Mrs. Cuppy and that growth was recognized recently as members of our theater department won a state championship! Mrs. Cuppy is an outstanding teacher and I certainly wish her the best in future endeavors. (Hopefully those future endeavors will continue to be at Eagle Point High School).

I look forward to following the trajectory and success of Mrs. Cuppy's career. If you have further questions about Julia, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Allen Barber  
Director of Human Resources/Secondary Education