

To whom it may concern,

I wish to submit my strong recommendation for Joy Stachmus and her application to your theatre internship program. I have had the pleasure of working with Joy the past three years in the School of Theatre at Oklahoma City University. She has consistently demonstrated the qualities we value in our young theatre artists at OCU. My first experience with Joy was directing her in a production of Lauren Gunderson's *Ada & the Engine*. Throughout the rehearsal process, Joy brought keen insight to the ensemble's work. She is professional, collaborative, and a positive energy in the rehearsal space. She brought this same professionalism to all of her classes. As a student she is engaged, inquisitive, and receptive to feedback and guidance. Her commitment to the work of bettering herself as a person and an artist is clear. She demonstrates an aptitude for curiosity as she continually interrogates her creative process and is an active participant in class discussions. She has shown strong growth as an actor and artist during her time here, and she has distinguished herself among her peers as an emerging leader in her class. She is also simply a pleasure to work and interact with in and outside of the classroom. Most notably, she has also demonstrated an aptitude for intimacy choreography. She has had training both with me and Theatrical Intimacy Education, and she has led by example in our program, guiding and supporting her fellow students in advocating for their boundaries and establishing consent in the classroom and rehearsal spaces. She has assisted me and other faculty in intimacy choreography and has earned the responsibility of serving as intimacy choreographer on her own productions as well. In short, Joy has earned the respect and trust of any faculty or students who have had the pleasure of working with her. Given the opportunity, I am certain she will continue to prove herself an insightful student and enthusiastic collaborator. If you have any further questions about Joy or her work, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kris Kuss

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