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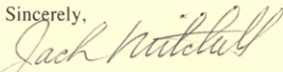
To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write to recommend Or Nili Azulay. As the Drama teacher and Program Director of University High School's Bilingual Theater Project I have had the opportunity to work with and observe Ms. Azulay as an artist and as a teacher and to witness her impact on the young people at University High School. The Bilingual Theater Project is a cross-curricular, multi-cultural educational program at University High School in West Los Angeles. Each year we research and present a full-length theater production in both English and Spanish. The Project typically involves students from across University High's culturally diverse student population. This year's production of F. Garcia Lorca's "Bodas de sangre/Blood Wedding" involved students from Mexico, Spain, South America, Korea, Cuba, Jamaica, Iran, and Israel. Or Nili Azulay came to us as a recommendation from Diane Collins at The Dance Center in West Los Angeles. When Ms Collins described her as an outstanding Flamenco Artist and excellent teacher we had no idea what a perfect fit she would be for our program. Ms. Azulay, as a multi-lingual Israeli Flamenco Dancer, embodies many of the values and concepts that are at the heart of The Bilingual Theater Project.

Ms. Azulay has received well-deserved international acclaim as a Flamenco Artist. She brings outstanding credentials and has studied and performed with some of the most highly respected theater and Flamenco artists in the world. When she came to University High School to teach Flamenco and to serve as choreographer for our production, we were not sure how she would deal with multi-cultural urban high school students with little or no dance training. The results surpassed our expectations. Ms. Azulay was extremely well organized and highly professional. She immediately established a rapport with the students and determined the strengths and weaknesses of each performer. She shared with them her knowledge of Spanish and Andalusian culture and inspired a vision of Flamenco as an expression of the spirit of collective culture. Under her instruction the students learned not only dance but gained an appreciation of this rich cultural tradition. In the eight weeks that Or Nili worked with our students she taught and choreographed two dance numbers for "Blood Wedding/Bodas de sangre" that highlighted the strengths of all of the performers. Under her instruction the students were able to communicate the passion and vitality of Flamenco culture that are essential to Lorca's masterpiece.

In conclusion, I recommend Or Nili Azulay most highly. She is a perceptive and articulate teacher, and an outstanding dancer. She is extremely effective working with young people of diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds, instilling in them a love of dance, a respect for cultural values, and an appreciation of Art as a bridge between cultures.

Sincerely,



Jack Mitchell, Drama Teacher, University High School