

January 3, 2014

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

I am very pleased to offer this "Letter of Recommendation" for Jason Nettle, a graduate of our MFA Acting program at the University of Central Florida. I have known and worked with Jason for three years, and I strongly recommend him to you.

Jason was one of the most proficient and outstanding MFA students we have ever had in our graduate program. He proved himself as a qualified researcher, student, and mentor from the moment he joined the department. His professional work as an actor, director, and writer served him well in the department and provided outstanding mentorship to undergraduate students with whom Jason worked.

Jason served as a Teaching Assistant for undergraduate acting, voice, and musical theatre classes, including serving as "Faculty of Record" for his own sections. I had the privilege of having Jason serve as my Teaching Assistant for musical theatre voice and auditioning classes, and his work was extraordinary. He has great skill in assessing student abilities and shaping curriculum to meet their needs and learning styles. He thrives in the world of "process" and teaching students how to take the theory and put it into practical application. As well, his knowledge and utilization of technology in the classroom is incomparable – he taught me a few tools which I have incorporated into my own teaching. His student evaluations were consistently outstanding, and he was a tremendous asset to the students in my courses.

I consider Jason to be a "renaissance man" – capable of teaching acting, movement, voice, musical theatre, auditioning, directing and literature courses. As well, he demonstrated a natural affinity for directing and staging while in our program, independently volunteering his time to assist undergraduate independent study, directed research, and honors studio performance projects. A majority of the projects were musical theatre works, and Jason's directing/staging work always was concise, appropriate for the piece, and a beneficial learning tool for the undergraduate students working with him.

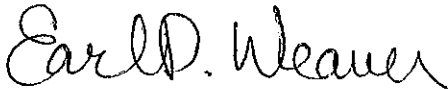
I had the privilege of directing Jason in our mainstage production of *The Pajama Game*, which speaks to Jason's versatility as a performer. He was cast in numerous productions during his time in the MFA program, ranging from dramatic to comedic to musical theatre roles. His depth of talent allows him to tackle any role put before him. He is the consummate professional, always demonstrating to younger cast members what it takes to survive the world of theatre. He is extremely collaborative in his process and a joy to work with.

Jason turned his passion for writing into a one-man thesis project entitled *9/11: We Will Forget*, which has been performed at several venues throughout Florida, including the Orlando International Fringe Festival (where he won the Patrons Choice Award). That project led to writing another one-man show called *Fetish*, which also was selected for the Orlando International Fringe Festival. Both new works were outstanding vehicles to showcase the breadth of Jason's talent as both a writer and performer.

Upon graduating from our MFA program, Jason immediately was hired by Jacksonville University as an adjunct professor to teach acting, advanced movement, and advanced voice courses. Though many of our graduate students do end up moving into the world of educational theatre, never have we had a student secure a teaching position so quickly after graduating from our program. Clearly, this is a testament to Jason's abilities to teach a wide variety of courses.

Jason is an extremely bright, articulate, and engaging young man. His zest for life and the pursuit of education is infectious, and he inspires those around him to always be at their best, no matter what they are trying to accomplish. I always look forward to in-depth pedagogical discussions with Jason, and I am sure your experience with him will be as rewarding as mine has been. I wish him the very best of luck in all his life pursuits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Earl D. Weaver". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Earl D. Weaver  
Coordinator, Musical Theatre/Dance  
Associate Professor  
Theatre Department  
University of Central Florida  
Phone: (407) 312-3620  
E-mail: [eweaver@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:eweaver@mail.ucf.edu)