

To whom it may concern,

I first met Jessica Lopez-Barki in the spring of 2016 during rehearsals for NACL's production of *Courage*. Her energy, enthusiasm and detailed research into her part was contagious and helped the members of the chorus unite as a cohesive unit.

When she asked me to be the vocal coach for the musical she was directing at Suny Sullivan, I jumped at the chance to work with her again. The musical she had selected was Stephen Sondheim's *ASSASSINS*. The music was a challenge for me and the music director, but Jessica was not deterred by the difficulty of this production. She conducted rehearsals in an organized manner, and made apparent her belief that her students were up to the task. She built a culture of support and enthusiasm that was felt by everyone. A telling detail is that not one person in the large cast dropped out. Everyone wanted to contribute.

I have enjoyed working with Jessica. She works harder than just about anyone I know, and has shown great insight into how a production works from top to bottom. Now she is working on another demanding production, an original musical. She has been able to work well with the playwright, and she has been able to pull the best efforts from her student actors and crew. Her knowledge of acting, dance, and all technical aspects of a production, from lights to sound, costumes and sets gives everyone involved a sense of security. In band rehearsals, if one of the members asks a question, the answer is always, "Jessica will know."

Thank you for your consideration,

Annie Hat Williams
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member, Actor's Equity, AFTRA