

To whom it may concern:

October 12, 2011

I was very fortunate in my decision to enroll in two drama courses at Walla Walla community college- North campus; Representative plays and Beginning acting.

It is with much enthusiasm that I am Pleased to write a few words in support of miss Barkl, who I was lucky to have as my instructor. The dedication that she exhibited as an educator was evident every day of class; she always left me with the feeling that she loves what she's doing; I appreciated her passion. Her ability to translate the mastery of her craft into laymens terms, enabled me to grasp basic principles and the rudiments of drama. My new found respect and appreciation for the theatre has developed into a genuine love for the art of acting.

Miss Barkl's professionalism, indefatigable energy, and uncompromising insistence on theatre as a way to see the world, was a blessing and a gift. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from her.

Sincerely, Eugene Hogue



10-10-11

Ms. Barkl's teaching abilities, the course content, and her methods in my opinion are at a more than acceptable level. Ms. Barkl made me actually do some work. I was challenged by the course. I had to read about the history and different methods used in acting. Not only did I have to give a written account of what I learned, I had to go outside my "comfort zone" and "share" in group what I learned. Ms. Barkl helped shine a new light on actors, and a definite respect for the art through my experience, and the stories she shared of her experiences. So, in my opinion Ms. Barkl is a good instructor. It is apparent she believes in what she is teaching.

JEFFREY BONDOS

October 10, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a former student of Jessica Barkl's. I've had the privilege of being taught by her and also had the privilege of having a role in play she directed. As a student of Ms. Barkl, I can say there was no one more suitable to teach me about the world of drama/theatre than her. Considering I was someone once clueless to drama, I learned a great deal about the subject from her.

As a former outsider, I made the mistaken presumption that drama was a simple matter. But to my surprise, upon my *Introduction to Theatre* with Ms. Barkl, I learned that drama is a more complex matter than previously presumed. Yet as complicated as drama was to someone new to it as myself, she found a way to make me understand it. Her teaching methods are very effective. She made learning about drama enjoyable. Her ability to teach drama while also making it enjoyable for first time drama students is only a testimony of her innate skill to motivate and encourage her students.

In addition, she has the capability to adapt to any given situation. This was shown when she was required to step up and step in herself, at the last minute to play a leading role in a play she directed. The actor chosen to play the role was unable to participate in the production due to unforeseeable circumstances. She successfully did this on a week's notice and I applaud her for it.

Ms. Barkl has a natural gift for drama. Her knowledge and understanding of the subject matter is exceptional. Her passion and enthusiasm for drama was inspiring. These qualities, above all else, made drama more interesting and inspired me to want to learn more about it. Furthermore, if emotions are considered a good thing in drama, then she had an abundance of it.

Because of Jessica Barkl, I'm always going to be a student of drama. And only because of Jessica Barkl, I now have a greater appreciation for drama/theatre. In my view as a perpetual student, there is no one more qualified to fit the bill of "drama teacher", than Jessica Barkl.

Oloth

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oloth", written in a cursive style.

Former Drama Student

October 10, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Senson Hankens and I was a student at Walla Walla Community College in Washington State Penitentiary. While working towards an Associate in Arts degree, I took four classes taught by Ms. Barkl: Intercultural Communication, Representative Plays, Beginning Acting and Play Production, and Playwrighting. I cannot think of any other courses that I have taken that have had as great of an impact on me—in terms of personal knowledge, confidence, and ability gained over the period of a single quarter—than Ms. Barkl's classes.

Ms. Barkl has a passion for theater, but what stands out to me is the way she challenged students to fulfill their potential. While she employed the traditional A-F grading system, Ms. Barkl motivated me and many of my peers for reasons beyond the limited threat or reward of

10-07-11

To whom it may concern:

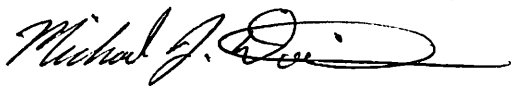
My name is Michael Doumit. I am a student of the Walla Walla Community College Associates of Arts Degree at Washington State Penitentiary. This letter is in reference to Jessica Barkl.

I have taken a few of Jessica Barkls classes. I have taken her Theater Appreciation class. This class is one of my favorite classes. Miss Barkls enthusiasm and teaching skills are a great mix for this class. Her enthusiasm for theater has taken my enthusiasm from a general knowledge of theater, to a love for theater. Her skill at teaching Theater Appreciation is a very unique and fun learning environment.

With the completion of this class I found myself so interested in theater, that when I found out that there was going to be a production of The Iceman Cometh, I had to join the class. From this opportunity to work in the production of this play I have gained a few skills that I did not previously possess. The best skill that I learned with Miss Barkls teaching is a skill of being able to read and remember things better. For example, she taught me script memorization that she herself had learned and with references from texts, she was able to teach them to us. She also has an ability to coax our best potentials in anything that she has any of her students do (e.g., Whether it is performing for an audience, sitting in class learning about theater, or learning to become a better student). I thank Miss Barkl for the enthusiasm, and added skills that she has given me.

In conclusion, I feel that Miss Barkls' enthusiasm for the theater arts and teaching is a great combination, and has made her one of my favorite teachers to study under. Her teaching has made me a better student in more ways than one.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Doumit". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Doumit

October 7, 2011

To whom it may concern,

I began my college education two years ago in my late 40's and I came with many preconceived and firmly entrenched biases about many things including Theater. As I was consulting with my advisor about the first classes I would be taking at Walla Walla Community College he recommended that I Take Ms. Barkl's intro to theater class. I immediately said that I was not interests in taking any theater class for any reason. He informed me that Ms. Barkl was the best instructor on campus and it was on that note that I began the most rewarding educational experience of my life. I came to that class and on the first day expressed my opinion of theater and was rewarded with the response that it was important to have an opinion and even though it was one of disapproval it was still important. Throughout that class I was impressed by Ms. Barkl's through knowledge and passion for theater and also by her ability to engage and inform in a way that included every member of the class. Even though my opinion remained unchanged toward theater, I was so impressed with Ms. Barkl as an instructor that I took a second theater class the next quarter.

This class was called Representative Plays and focused on the history and cultural value of theater and once again I was blown away by how much Ms. Barkl knew about theater and also by how little I Knew. At the end of this class my opinion about theater had completely changed and this was due to the teaching ability and passion of Ms. Barkl. My attitude had changed to the point that upon the next opportunity I took an acting and play production class offered by Ms. Barkl. I learned how to act and we put on a production of *The Iceman Cometh* and it was in that class that I was able to experience Ms. Barkl's genius and passion. My education has brought to my life a new understanding and appreciation that I never would have thought possible and the most important aspect of that experience has been the classes I've taken with Ms. Barkl. She is truly inspirational and would be an invaluable asset to any place she teaches.

Sincerely,

Lloyd D. Gray

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lloyd D. Gray", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

From: Coleman E Colloway

Date: October 07, 2011

RE: Ms Barkl Reference letter

To whom it may concern. I am a prisoner at Walla, Walla state penitentiary where Ms Barkl teaches. I had the pleasure of being a student in three of Ms Barkl's classes, through Walla, Walla Community A. A program. The classes I completed with Ms Barkl help, was Drama, Representative Plays and Culture Communications.

First I would like to share something with you. Before I was arrested, I was in a very bad car crash, which I received serious trauma to the head in the accident. Every since I have had a hard time with remembering information.

When I signed up for drama. I did not realize we would be putting on a play at the end of the quarter. I was scared to death over this. How was I going to remember my lines? At auditions I read my lines well, which earned me a good role in the play (The Icemen Cometh) which is an intense play. I played Chuck the Deer tender.

Ms Barkl worked hard with me and the rest of her students. Most of us never seen a play, let alone act in one. In 90 days she turned a bunch of lost individuals into pretty good, I would not say great, acting team. We had two practice plays before we had to act in front of the warden and her administration, people from Walla, Walla Community, and some of our family member who was able to make it. We was so proud of our performance why, we did not make any mistake. It went flawless.

This is the type of teacher Ms Barkl is. A no non-sense type of teacher, who quickly evaluates your strengths and weaknesses. Mine was remembering. She showed us proven techniques to help us with our weaknesses. That's how I remembered my lines and I have used them in the rest of my classes. I feel she helped me receive a A+ in Gender and Society. By teaching me public speaking in communications, which I used in my final project. A fifteen minute advertisement presentation in front of the whole class. I used techniques Ms Barkl taught me in drama and communications. To engage the audience, keep eye contact, use your loud clear voice, take your time be prepared, and always remember everyone is a little nervous it's alright.

So in conclusion I would like to say. Ms Barkl is one hell of a teacher! Anyone out there should be proud and lucky to have a person like her as part of your team.

Sincerely yours
Coleman E Colloway

October 11, 2011

To: Instructor Barkl
From: Robinson Edwards - Drama Student
Re: Instructor Performance

To whom it may concern,

This is in regards of Instructor Barkl's classroom effectiveness as a teacher. First and foremost Barkl orchestrated a well rounded teaching environment while providing challenging and educational curriculum. She used college level reading materials, which kept me interested. She picked a difficult play " The Iceman Cometh " by Eugene O'neil that she directed at the end of the quarter. She is intelligent, confident and always stayed focused on the task at hand. I believe she has the capabilities to teach Drama at any level. I was able to perform in a play, remember my lines and succeed because of her teaching performance.

Overall I believe Instructor Barkl has what it takes to go as far as she wants. I strongly support her as a Drama teacher.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Robinson Edwards