

SAINT MARY CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

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To Whom it May Concern:

January 8, 2019

I am writing to provide a reference for Mr. Corey Pearce. Corey and I worked together in the Arts department at St. Mary Secondary School in Hamilton from 2002 to 2018. I teach theatre Arts at St. Mary, and Corey was an educational assistant in my class. Furthermore, Corey and I also worked together preparing a number of performances for the community. It is in these capacities that I am able to provide a reference for Corey.

As an educational assistant, Corey is excellent at finding the student's interests, and helping them achieve their potential. The students take to him right away, due to his forthright and affable nature. He is able to build a rapport with them that enables them to feel comfortable, and in turn this helps them to succeed. In addition, Corey takes an active role in helping all of the students in the class, not just the ones that are assigned to him. They look up to him and respect to him because he clearly cares about their success and well being.

Furthermore, Corey is very active in the school in an extracurricular capacity. I first started working with Corey when we collaborated on the school play I directed in 2010. Corey had just started a drumline at the school, and they performed as part of our play. Even though his group was small, only 5 members, and they had just started out, they did an amazing job and the play was a tremendous success due to this collaboration between music and drama. He took that small drumline and grew it into a large full scale percussion ensemble that won Provincial championships for 6 years, and 2 New York State Championships as well. However, it is not the awards that make his percussion program a success; it is the dedication and commitment to bettering themselves that Corey instills in the students at every practice and performance. Finally, it is important to note that Corey's percussion program is fully inclusive, enabling students of all ability levels to find a place to belong, and find an art to excel in.

I give Corey my recommendation for a position with your school board. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further detail or clarification.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Newberry
Theatre Arts teacher - St. Mary Secondary School
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