



July 19, 2012

TO THE ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL

As the Artistic Director/Founder of Matthews Playhouse, I am honored to recommend Dr. Wrenn Goodrum to the Arts & Science Council.

I met Dr. Goodrum three years ago and was extremely impressed with her experience and history as the Artistic Director/Founder of All Childrens Theatre (ACT) in Providence, Rhode Island. At our meeting she exemplified an authentic passion for arts education for youth, intergenerational and senior citizens. She approached me with ideas for starting acting classes for seniors and starting a 'Senior Theatre'. In 2011 Matthews Playhouse was awarded a grant from ASC to produce a 'Life Stories' workshop and performance with senior members of the Matthews and Charlotte communities. Dr. Goodrum's production was a very successful program for Matthews Playhouse and the community.

Dr. Goodrum's energy and enthusiasm is contagious as exemplified in both her work with seniors and youth. She has taught and directed for our summer programs as well as directed our first 'Acting Company' for youth. This past year the company performed, '*Phantom of the Soap Opera*', for our annual New Year's Eve event and later in the year Dr. Goodrum directed them in a modern day production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Due to the success of this program, we have initiated a Junior Acting company which Dr. Goodrum will direct.

Dr. Goodrum is an inspirational and charismatic teacher/director with innovative and creative ideas whom I believe would be a worthy asset to the children in Charlotte – Mecklenburg County schools.

Sincerely,

June Bayless
Artistic Director
Matthews Playhouse

DAVID N. CICILLINE
Mayor

THOMAS M. BRADY
Superintendent



COLIN GRIMSEY
Principal

Vartan Gregorian ES
455 Wickenden Street
Providence, RI 02903
tel. 401.456.9377
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Vartan Gregorian Elementary School at Fox Point

March 26, 2009

To whom it may concern,

I strongly recommend Dr. Wrenn Goodrum, founder and Artistic/Executive Director of All Children's Theatre, for a position in your organization. I have known and worked with Wrenn in many different capacities for more than 14 years. My recommendation and perspectives come from serving as the President of the Board of Directors for the All Children's Theatre (ACT), a Providence Public School Department Special Education teacher, patron, parent and friend.

Wrenn is eager, ambitious, conscientious and compassionate. As President of the ACT Board of Directors, ACT patron and parent, I knew Wrenn to be extremely hard-working and dedicated to the arts. Wrenn is an ambassador for children. Under Wrenn's guidance, our son became an award-winning playwright and actor, going on to study theater in college and now fully employed as an actor on tour.

Wrenn's stamina and devotion to the artistic process is admired by all who've worked with her in our after school Drama Club at the Vartan Gregorian Elementary School at Fox Point. More than 400 student actors and their families have directly benefited from Wrenn's dedication and loyalty to our school. Every child comes away profoundly and positively impacted by their time in the Drama Club. Responsive and insightful, Wrenn empowers children from very diverse backgrounds, children of poverty and affluence, able and physically challenged children. Children once too shy, now find "My voice is powerful!" and are the first to raise their hand in class and sign up for an oral presentation. Children who may struggle with a tough issue are ready to take center stage, more empowered by their experiences with Wrenn.

It is with great pride I strongly recommend Dr. Wrenn Goodrum for a position with your organization.

Sincerely,

Maureen Kenner

Rhode Island Teacher of the Year finalist and Providence Teacher of the Year



Mayor of Providence

David N. Cicilline

March 13, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of Dr. Wrenn Goodrum. I have known Wrenn for more than a decade as the Artistic Executive Director of All Children's Theatre, a wonderful arts organization that uses the performing arts as a tool to educate children and teens in our city.

Wrenn is a talented and dedicated artist and educator, with a passion for her work and and her community. Under her leadership the All Children's Theatre has impacted thousands of young lives in our city, helping many overcome incredible obstacles in their lives by learning how to express themselves through theater. Her efforts have enriched our community through these fresh talents and their stories of personal triumph. Wrenn has an extraordinary gift for teaching and inspiring people of all ages.

I strongly recommend Wrenn for any position or endeavor that she may seek to pursue. While I am saddened to learn of her departure, I know she will be a valuable asset for any organization or community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Cicilline", written over a horizontal line.

David N. Cicilline
Mayor

DNC/gc

City of Providence, Rhode Island 02903
Phone (401) 421-7740 Fax (401) 274-8240



trinity
repertory
company

Brown University/Trinity Rep Consortium

March 20, 2009

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is an enthusiastic letter of recommendation for Wrenn Goodrum, who has been a valued friend and colleague for over twenty years.

Although I have never actually worked with Wrenn, as Associate Director at Trinity Rep I am familiar with most of the artists working in Rhode Island theatre, and I know Wrenn from her exemplary work as Artistic Director of the All Children's Theatre, an organization she founded and built from nothing that has become one of the most respected institutions in the State. Because I often have to cast plays at Trinity, I see as much local theatre as possible, and have been consistently impressed both by the quality and the sheer volume of her work. She has produced every kind of play imaginable, from traditional children's theatre to well-known musicals and from Shakespeare to original plays written both by her own students and by commissioned playwrights. Productions at All Children's Theatre are consistently notable for their imaginative staging, the serious yet playful professionalism of their casts, and for a true respect for the art of making theatre.

I have had many occasions to call Wrenn when working on a production at Trinity Rep that required child actors. Children from her theatre have made stellar contributions over the years to numerous productions of A CHRISTMAS CAROL at Trinity, as well as to more difficult pieces such as THE CRYPTOGRAM by David Mamet, THE CIDER HOUSE RULES by Peter Parnell and SLAVS by Tony Kushner. Her actors not only work with freedom and a lack of self-consciousness, but are always well-prepared and ready to work as professionals. I know Wrenn to be an inspirational leader and an artist of rare artistic vision. I am in awe of her work in Providence, and know that she would be a valued asset to any city or institution.

Sincerely,

Brian McEleney
Associate Director
Trinity Repertory Company

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