

This letter is in support of Thomas Torrento for a teaching position in music.

Thomas Torrento was my trumpet student throughout his undergraduate studies at Eastern Michigan University. He was a music education major from 2001-2003 but then left school to tour nationally with a pop music group. This was a terrific opportunity for him. The experience of seven years as a professional musician and all that it entailed, gave him real world experience that most students never have. By the time he returned in the fall of 2008, he was completely committed to finishing his music education degree and was well equipped to be highly successful in that pursuit.

Tom is an exceptional person. He is a self-starter, extremely well organized, focused and determined, always looking forward, setting goals and taking whatever steps are necessary to achieve success. He is a person of the highest personal character. Tom was a positive role model for the students in the trumpet studio and other students as well. He was very helpful with younger students as they made the challenging transition from high school to college.

Tom is an energetic, mature, disciplined person. He is a leader. He communicates effectively with people of all ages. He has the knack of making every person feel that he is talking directly to them individually and not just as part of a group. He projects such an overwhelmingly positive attitude in everything he does that it becomes infused in those around him.

Tom was recognized for his leadership skills, his sense of responsibility, his ability to work independently and simply for having the initiative for getting things done by being selected to serve on the Eastern Michigan University band staff. Working closely with the band directors in all phases of the EMU band program gave him invaluable experience for his future as a music director.

In the trumpet studio Tom performed in large and small trumpet ensembles. I could count on him for leading a group throughout the organizing, scheduling, rehearsing and performing process. In addition to his very successful student teaching experience this semester, Tom has been an instructor for many high school band camps and sought after as a private lesson teacher. Even during the years he was touring, he maintained a studio of 3-8 private trumpet students.

Tom is a fine trumpet player. He performed an outstanding senior recital which is not even required for music education majors. I recommended him for outside playing jobs because I knew he would be responsible and represent himself and Eastern Michigan University in a highly professional manner.

I believe that Thomas Torrento has the ability and experience to be a highly successful instrumental music director and I am pleased to recommend him without reservation.

Sincerely,



Carter Eggers, Professor
Department of Music and Dance
Eastern Michigan University
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