

April 5, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Maria Gray as an AEA stage manager and theatre professional. During the summer of 2015, Maria and I worked closely together on several theatrical productions with the Summer Theatre of New Canaan, based in New Canaan, CT. I was the director of the educational theatre program, and Maria worked as the stage manager. Additionally, Maria worked as the assistant stage manager for the main stage production of Legally Blonde, for which I was the assistant choreographer.

During my time working with Maria, I was impressed with her skills and work ethic. Maria can best be described as hardworking, decisive, organized, collaborative, and reliable. She efficiently and creatively organized the logistical and technical components of both the rehearsal process and the final production. She was exceptionally conscientious of both the artistic and scheduling objectives and took ownership and accountability for her role and worked quickly to correct any misses. Maria has a unique ability to identify potential problems throughout the production process.

The actors and production team both responded exceptionally well to Maria's calm and consistent approach to stage work. She was brilliant in developing rehearsal schedules that could engage all of the children actors during rehearsals consistently, a tough task for any educational theatre program.

Maria has incredible technical savvy and attention to safety and the organization of the backstage space to prevent injury and loss of props. Each prop had a specific cubby that was labeled. Props were not lost, and actors were safe during the rehearsals and productions. She was forthright with the actors in requiring good backstage practices.

I highly recommend Maria! She does not disappoint and I look forward to every opportunity of working with her.

Sincerely,

Corinne Broadbent AEA
Director/Choreographer, Summer Theatre of New Canaan

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