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To Whom It May Concern,

This letter of recommendation is being written for **Jess Pilya** who is applying for a teaching position in visual art. Jess has been a student of mine in four courses at The Ohio State University in the Art Education Licensure Only program. I have also had the privilege of observing her work as she student taught at the elementary and high school level with art educators in central Ohio. Jess is an incredibly strong art educator and works to make learning meaningful and relevant for all students! Her dedication and professionalism shine through in all her work and make her a valuable leader within our field!

Jess is a very sincere student and art educator. In all the work Jess has developed through the art education program, she has demonstrated how she is a deep thinker and develops her materials and work to a professional quality. Her work in my courses were consistently of high quality and showcased a range of research and deep understanding of the field of art and art education. During class presentations and discussions, she is very well organized and a thoughtful contributor. Jess is able to transfer these incredible skills in her work with students and help them produce high quality work and ideas in the art classroom!

Jess has been dedicated to using relevant and contemporary research to make art education meaningful to her students and the communities she serves. She designs learning units that engage students in critical thinking and meaningful art concepts to make connections across the curriculum. Jess consistently developed ideas that would be relevant for her elementary and high school populations, and she worked to provide learners with voice and choice to make the art learning meaningful for their lives. She worked to meaningfully engage students in problem solving and brainstorming to help them see how ideas can travel through content areas and build conceptual connections!

Jess is innovative and passionate about art education. At the high school level, she taught students how to use technology to brainstorm concepts and ideas and document their thinking process as well as understand the connection to the making process. At the elementary, she was focused on learning about the age group and capitalizing on the creative and critical thinking that elementary learners are happy to engage in. She explored art concepts of home, safety, and power to just name a few of the larger connections she is able to build with learners in meaningful and scaffolded ways to build art and society connections throughout the K-12 experience!

I highly recommend Jess for an art teaching position and encourage the selection committee to see what a brilliant and professional colleague that will join the faculty! Jess is a leader and will be an impactful art educator in any community she is part of. Her dedication to teaching and learning and care for students are great strengths she possesses. Jess is a very strong art educator and will develop an art program that propels critical thinking, innovation, and care with all students! Please feel free to contact me, I am happy to share the many ways Jess is a brilliant art educator!

Sincerely,

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