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To Whom It May Concern:

I am thrilled to write today in recommendation of Cheryl Ann Sanders as a performer, educator, acting and audition coach, mentor, and arts advocate. Having known Sanders for twenty-one years, I can ardently say that Sanders is of the highest caliber performer, with a variety of professional experiences in her arsenal of tools to offer.

I currently teach in the Theatre & Dance Department at Austin Peay State University in Nashville, TN. APSU recently brought Cheryl to campus as an Acuff Chair of Excellence in the Arts as part of our Guest Artist Series. Her expertise as a working member of Actors Equity Association and a Creative Artist and Ambassador for Cirque du Soleil garnered the attention of the administration APSU, and suited the needs of our students in a significant way.

Over the course of a week, Cheryl provided opportunity to augment our Department's offerings in workshops on Physical Character Building, Circus Makeup Technique, Neutral Mask, and Audition Technique for Performers. Participants included Acting/Directing Majors, Dance Majors, Makeup/Costume Designers, Theatre/Dance Minors, and Musical Theatre Majors. Students in all areas made significant progress in perfecting their craft during Cheryl's residency.

Cheryl Sanders brings a unique perspective on performing to any group of students and professionals. Her workshops are engaging from front to back, practical, and come from a place of genuine enthusiasm for creative storytelling. It is clear that her expertise is a fine blend of Conservatory Training, high-level professional experience, and a love for the arts.

In addition to Cheryl's workshop series, she offered an evening performance, consisting of Cirque-oriented vignettes that she developed with students during the week. She also performed eight songs from various Musical Theatre genres and time periods, yet another of her many successful methods of storytelling. Response from the audience, community, and faculty was positive and generated more collaborative ideas among students and faculty.

I have worked with Sanders as a colleague, fellow performer and singer, and as a dancer in her choreography for over twenty years; I look forward to the opportunity work with Cheryl again on a regular basis. Cheryl always brings more than 100% to the table, a creative edge, and a positive attitude that leaves people stunned.

Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Christopher Bailey, PhD