

May 22 2009

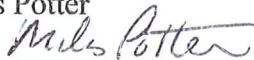
To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the Globe theatre Conservatory Training program. I am a professional free lance director, and I have staged productions for most of the major theatres of Canada; perhaps more importantly, I have been a guest director and teacher for many schools and universities, including The National Theatre School of Canada, George Brown College, Humber college, The University of Ottawa, the Soulepper Academy and University of Missouri at Kansas City. I have been exposed to and participated in many forms of training through these institutions; they all have particular strengths (and weaknesses), and all are striving to provide a training ground for the aspiring theatre professional. However, the Globe program, as I experienced it, is attempting something which only a few of these other institutions are able to do. They want to expose their students to a series of working professionals in a carefully planned and thought out program of training. Many, if not most, other programs may attempt, or say they are attempting something like this, but in my experience the majority of training is done by academics. I am not disparaging academics, but if you are staging a conservatory to train professionally, the best way to do that is to employ working professionals in order to expose the students to real world conditions and standards; and this is enormously difficult. Working directors and actors are hard to schedule, they are busy, and I imagine they are expensive; but in my opinion, it is the ONLY way to properly prepare students for the arts.

I think the need for and usefulness of a conservatory in Saskatchewan is fairly self evident, and I think the history of the Globe Theatre makes it clear that it is the institution in the area to do it; however, they could have done it in a less professional (and less affective) way, but I lend them my support because I believe they have taken a very serious and well thought out approach to this work, and so I believe they deserve very serious attention and support.

Sincerely,

Miles Potter



#4 Victoria St.  
Harrington  
(RR3, Embro)  
Ontario  
N0J 1J0