

## **ACCLAIM Academy**

7624 W. Indian School Road Phoenix, Arizona 85033 623-691-0919

April 13, 2015

To Whom It May Concern -

This letter is in reference to Jens Larson and his Circus Arts Program.

Early on this school year Jens approached me with a proposal that we offer a program for students to learn circus arts/skills. Being well aware of the positive effect that developing coordination skills can have on academics, physical health, and character, I was anxious to be among the first to get on board.

We set up the program to run in the multi-purpose room during Fitness classes and after school. Interestingly, a number of the most diligent and enthusiastic participants are not the athletic type, not necessarily popular among their peers, and not outstanding academically. Their participation in this program has made a significantly positive impact on them in all three of these areas. And they confidently displayed their skills in their enthusiastically received number for both our annual Hooray for the Arts performance and a visit to a local senior center.

As an administrator, I need to have total confidence in anyone working with my students. Jens' record as a public school teacher and the absolute honor, integrity and respect with which he deals with the students and the staff here mean that such confidence is well earned.

In short, if you are interested in offering a program or event that will give students/youth the opportunity to develop a unique type of physical skills while also netting positive growth in character and academics, Jens Larson's Phoenix Youth Circus Arts is the answer!

Sincerely.

Melanie Powers, Director

**ACCLAIM Academy**