

February, 21, 2020

To whom it may concern,

It is not often one meets an individual who so perfectly exemplifies the disposition of an actor and a teacher. Jasen Salvatore is that individual and I am honored to recommend him as a candidate in your position.

I have known Sal since 2005 when we first met at the now defunct Sports Club of LA. Sal had been working on and off at this high scale fitness club for several years as he pursued his childhood dream to become a “paid” actor. There are quotes around “paid” as Jasen was put on this earth to be an actor and share his craft and skills with those he touches. Putting aside his work ethic and customer service at SCLA, Jasen constantly talked about his craft and love of acting. Where this writer loved Tom Cruise and his craft, Jasen references the likes of Marlon Brando, James Dean and the dedication and late bloomers like Harrison Ford. Jasen knows the business whether it be the endless rejections after headshots sent, doors closed on your face or the no call back after a great audition. He almost touched the sun whether it be landing a modeling gig in those first few months, cast as the body double for Ben Stiller or the heartbreak of that scene with Steve Carrol being cut out of Crazy, Stupid, Love. This is Hollywood and Jasen has lived Hollywood. Most put their tail between their legs and head back to Podunk, Nebraska telling stories of Los Angeles to their high school friends and family members. Most go back to accounting, sales or even teaching, but some stay because this is what they were born to do. Few know Hollywood takes passion, time and commitment, but few

I always hear that Hollywood is all about connections, and although true, every job is about connections. Hollywood is more about believing, dreaming and passion. The last ten to fifteen years as brought so many additional opportunities for those flocking to the Hollywood sign and Jasen still continues that

desire to hone his craft and have faith in a business that supports craft and sharing of stories that without this medium would go unnoticed and unheard.

Professionally I wrote and co-produced a short and cast Jasen as a friend of the main character. I did this for two reasons. The first reason is because Jasen became a friend and mentor. He's got a heart of gold and a wealth of knowledge. The second reason I cast Jasen was because of reason one and what he can offer those actors, directors and producers in that film. The presence of Jasen on set was reassuring and helpful. Although Jasen had a secondary role (based on the character of the lead) he made sure he was there over three days to support all and help with any of the details that needed additional care.

In both experiences, it was clear that Jasen is admired and respected by all. I could go on and on over his dedication to his craft and wealth of knowledge of the acting cycle. One thing I'll leave you with is that Jasen will bring to the college a motivated learner seeking to make the most of every opportunity presented him. He will bring a delightful, playful, optimistic individual with a desire to improve not only himself but every institution which he enters. Both the university and the teaching profession will benefit from Jasen reaching his goal of becoming a professional educator. As an instructor, I look forward to the day when Jasen joins the ranks of the most wonderful profession.

Sincerely,  
Kevin McCloskey