



MEMPHIS
MUSIC ACADEMY

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February 19, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for David Collins, who has been an invaluable member of our teaching staff at Memphis Music Academy since 2017. David is an outstanding multi-instrumentalist and educator, and any music school or private lesson studio would be fortunate to have him.

David's strengths as an instructor extend far beyond his impressive musical abilities. He is punctual, prepared, and highly organized, always remembering exactly what each student has been working on. His patience and ability to create a comfortable and safe learning environment make him especially effective with students. He is also incredibly reliable and easy to schedule with, ensuring consistency and smooth communication with both students and parents. David's dedication to his students fosters long-term relationships—many of his students have remained with him for years, a testament to both his teaching effectiveness and the genuine connections he builds with them.

In addition to his work as a private instructor, David has demonstrated exceptional leadership in group settings. Last year, he played a key role in leading ensemble classes for the American Music Journey program, a collaboration between Memphis Music Academy and Skyrocket Education Services. As part of this program, students from Options for Youth Public Charter Schools traveled through the Mississippi Delta and New Orleans to explore the birthplaces of jazz and blues. David's expertise allowed him to guide small ensembles (bass, three guitars, piano, and drums) through the performance of Booker T. & The MGs' classic, *Green Onions*. Not only did he break down each instrument's part with clarity, but he also provided historical context on the original recording session, deepening the students' appreciation for the music.

Beyond the classroom, David is an active and respected musician in the Memphis music scene. His reputation as a skilled performer regularly brings new students through our doors, eager to study with him on one of the many instruments he plays, including guitar, bass, drums, ukulele, and piano. His ability to inspire students through both instruction and performance is rare and invaluable.

As David moves to Brooklyn, I have no doubt that he will bring the same level of excellence, professionalism, and dedication to his next teaching position. I give him my highest recommendation and am confident he will be a tremendous asset to any institution. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss his qualifications further.

Sincerely,

Melissa K. Moore

Melissa K Moore
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