

August 19, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Sandra Ulikowski in support of her teaching art at the PK-12 level. As I detail my experiences with Sandra at Kutztown University, they will reveal why she should be considered for a position at your school. At the end of spring semester 2023, Sandra completed requirements for PA Visual Arts Certification PK-12.

In 2021, Sandra entered the Post-Baccalaureate Art Certification Program after pursuing a successful career in graphic design. When inquiring about the program, Sandra impressed me immediately with her intelligent questions and sense of purpose in deciding to earn teacher certification. After admission, Sandra pursued her professional goal of becoming an art teacher with rigor and discipline as she maintained a 4.0 in graduate studies.

That spring, Sandra was also my student in Studio Thinking, a course that examines the studio habits of mind, the types of learning that emerge from studying the visual arts. Prior to this course, Sandra worked as an artist primarily in two-dimensional design. For the course assignments, Sandra volunteered to work in sculpture to expand her knowledge base of materials and processes. Sandra made a screencast showing her explorations of different methods of building, forming, and attaching to create multiple sculptures using traditional and non-traditional materials. For her final, Sandra recorded a teaching video demonstrating how to make assemblage sculptures from combining nature and human-made materials that supported the concepts of contrast and unity.

As my student in a methods course for teaching art to adolescents, Sandra created a unit of instruction on sculpture built around enduring ideas, national standards and assessment. She demonstrated a clear understanding of how to write lesson plans, sequence activities to scaffold learning, identify objectives, and assess if those objectives have been met. Sandra's lessons were innovative and could easily capture the interest of students in multiple grade levels.

Sandra's extensive content knowledge and experience as designer and illustrator serve as a solid foundation for teaching art. Sandra demonstrated skills in her ability to communicate, problem-solve, manage, and establish procedures to create a workable environment in a variety of settings.

Sandra exhibits the potential of becoming an excellent art teacher who can reach young people. Sandra has creative ideas, skills to work with a variety of materials, and the work ethic to do well as a teacher. I give Sandra my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,



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