



11 Parnell Square East
Dublin 1

30th April 2019

To whom it may concern:

I have known Elaine Harrington over ten years now, as a talent performance poet/rap artist and poet who has worked very successfully as part of the Poetry Ireland Writers-in-Schools scheme. Elaine is a talented artist with a love of language and a gift for communication. She is a gifted teacher with the ability to reach her students, particularly those who may feel disaffected, from poetry and, indeed, language itself.

She has worked for several years with Poetry Ireland and the Junior Certificate Schools Library Project on *Wrapparound*, our annual junior cycle spoken word/performance poetry project. Schools that Elaine has worked with have included Trinity Comprehensive Ballymun, Margaret Aylward, Patrician College Finglas, St. Laurence's Loughlinstown, St. Tiernan's Balally and Ballinteer Community School. Elaine leads workshops, assisting students to create, compose and perform their own work at a performance held every year in May, and attended by participating schools and organisations held in TCD and UCC with the support of their Access Programmes.

Elaine has also done many one-off events/performances and readings with Poetry Ireland including the *Encountering the Arts Ireland*, where as TemperMentalMissElayneous she recited her specially commissioned piece *No Versus*. She also performs regularly with us on Culture Night and at Poetry Day events.

Elaine brings enormous creativity, enthusiasm, grit, determination and grace to the work that she does and this has been of immense value to the work that we do with the JCSP programme. She has a terrific work ethic and I would love to see her teaching as she has an authentic approach to her work in the class room which is underpinned by her natural, and learned, artistic skill and pedagogical approach. Because of this she provides encouragement to and for these young people in their creativity, self expression, learning and performance.

I cannot recommend Elaine highly enough as a future teacher and I wish her every success.

Regards

Jane

Jane O'Hanlon

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