



March 17, 2004

Dear Sir or Madam:

It is with great pleasure that I send you this letter in support of Lester Shane with whom I have known and worked for the past four years. Lester has served as the artistic director of Theatre Jacksonville's annual Shakespeare productions which include *The Tempest*, *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night* and *Macbeth*...all of which were rousing successes for the theatre. Not only are his directing skills outstanding but his keen dramaturgical eye streamlined all of these productions to fit his very definite artistic vision for each piece.

It is easy for me to say that Lester is one of the most talented directors with whom I have worked. He is a consummate artist and very much able to stand up under the incredible pressure of creating live and accessible classical theatre. Lester always brings a true sense of professionalism to the creative process and even in the most difficult circumstances has always been congenial, hard-working and unfailingly anxious to facilitate the realization of the theatrical concept.

Theatre Jacksonville is a volunteer driven organization that has served the people of northeast Florida since 1919. Our annual Shakespeare production is the perfect opportunity for our local actors to work with and learn from an experienced theatre professional. Lester certainly fit the bill for us in this capacity. During his summers with us and in the necessarily intense rehearsal processes, he was always clear, concise, well-organized, and highly charismatic when dealing with our designers and volunteers. In fact, his work was so consistent over a four year period that I cannot help but think that he must be similarly accomplished in his other directing engagements. Because Lester continually challenged the casts and artistic teams of each show to meet his high expectations, I personally credit him with raising the artistic standards of this organization when it comes to classical theatre endeavors.

I highly recommend Lester to you for consideration. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Boone". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Boone  
Executive Director