



International Academy  
1020 East Square Lake Rd.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1957 USA  
Telephone: 248.341.5900 Fax: 248.341.5959

*“One of America’s Top Ranking Schools”*  
-Newsweek: 2003-2009-2012-2013  
*Ranked Top Five High School in the United States*  
-U.S News and World Report, 2009-2013

May 1, 2015

To Whom it May Concern,

It is my pleasure to be able to write an enthusiastic recommendation letter in support of Jennifer Palombit. I have had the pleasure of to work with Jennifer this past year when she was hired to be a long term substitute for me at the International Academy, while I was out on maternity leave for three months. Over the course of my career I have worked with many fine teachers, but Jennifer is more than excellent in the classroom. Her willingness to collaborate and inspire both students and staff is what makes her an outstanding addition to any faculty. Jennifer is truly an outstanding professional educator and artist, and I recommend her without reservation and in the strongest possible terms.

Jennifer jumped right into four International Baccalaureate courses with ease and confidence. She had no problem guiding students in a wide range of media (including oil pastel drawing, acrylic painting, printmaking and sculpture) and introducing them to art from many periods and cultures (Chinese, Japanese, Islamic and African art, as well as early American art). Her experience and creativity came through and put the students at ease right away. The ninth and tenth grade Art 1 and Art 2 students were on task, focused and produced high level work.

Jennifer also worked with students in IB Visual Art at the Diploma level. This is a highly selective, two-year course in which students not only train in a variety of media at a college level, but also engage in extensive research that demonstrates in written and visual terms understanding and analysis of art from their own and other cultures. Each student works independently to produce a portfolio of work that reflects their own independent research in various art forms and styles, as well as growth of technique and ideas. This rigorous, time consuming class demands students to be focused and highly organized, not to mention thoughtful and creative. Jennifer met all of the challenges of instructing nearly forty students independently. She is highly organized and gives feedback in a timely manner. It should be noted that she also managed the twenty seniors during their IB Art exams. She maintained daily contact with me, the students and the IB coordinator to ensure that all students had the necessary material submitted in a timely manner.

In addition to the regular teaching duties, Jennifer was also willing to take on extra responsibilities such as art club and open studio. She definitely sees her responsibility to students as something that extends beyond the school day. She was often at school well past the end of the day to allow students time to work, or to offer extra support. I was very apprehensive to leave my students (particularly during examinations), but want to make it clear that I was beyond thrilled when Jennifer agreed to come on board. From the students to the staff, everyone was pleased and relieved at what a tremendous job she did.

Again, I am very happy to give Jennifer Palombit the strongest recommendation possible. I feel Jennifer has the dedication, knowledge, talent, and enthusiasm to make her a valued member of your staff. She will bring much to your community. Please don’t hesitate to contact me (gnaus@bloomfield.org or 248.823.8318) if you have any questions or need any further information.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Naus  
Visual Art Teacher  
International Academy



*Principal: Lynne Gibson; Associate Principals: Ryan Brinks, Ryan Parrott, Christopher Smith; IB Coordinator:  
Sarah Fairman*

*Counselors: Lisa Ann Acton, Jane Dittus, Renee Jamil, Brigid Piagentini and Julie Weatherhead*