

Letter of Support

Submitted by: Professor Ursula Payne
Slippery Rock University of PA

11.2.18

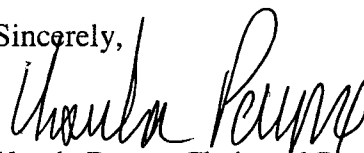
Dear Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Committee,

As a Professor and Chairperson of the dance program at Slippery Rock University, I am writing this letter of support for Olivia Nellis' grant application. I have had the pleasure of working with Olivia Nellis as a student in several of my courses and co-curricular activities at Slippery Rock University. Ms. Nellis has maintained an excellent attendance record and has demonstrated academic excellence, high achievement, initiative and excellent character as a valued student in our department.

I support this project because dance intensives are an excellent way for advanced dancers to prepare for the next phase of building a career in the field. The American Dance Festival winter intensive is held at New York University and is designed to prepare students for entry into a professional dance position and connect students with influential directors and decision-makers. Through attending this intensive New York City, she will have the opportunity to deepen her understanding of the contemporary dance practices and research methods driving the field, and discover what employment opportunities there are in that area. Additionally, she will be able to form valuable connections and gain a better understanding of the skills and qualities most desired by professionals in the field.

The Department of Dance is contributing to the goals of this project by supporting the production costs of presenting the independent concert. I will provide guidance for her senior project that will require that she synthesize her creative research at the ADF winter Intensive into designing her own creative and rehearsal process, leading to her independent concert in April. I have found Olivia to be a remarkable person as well as an exceptional emerging dance artist. Because of my academic and professional experiences with Olivia Nellis and along with witnessing her incredible work ethic, I highly recommend that she be considered for this grant award.

Sincerely,



Ursula Payne, Chair and Professor
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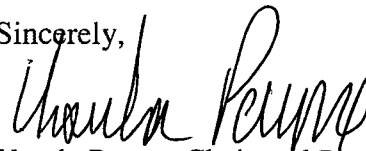
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