

Los Angeles Unified School District
Rosemont Avenue Elementary School
421 North Rosemont Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90026
(213) 413-5310

June 11, 2002

To Whom It May Concern,

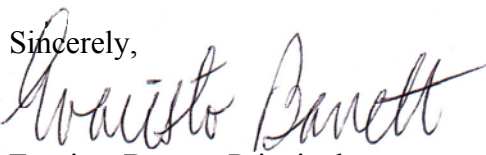
I am writing in commendation of Mr. Jonas Basom, a highly gifted instructor in the field of Visual and Performing Arts who has been working with our Rosemont Avenue Elementary teachers and students in the field of drama.

Mr. Basom is a highly skilled and intuitive individual who works effectively with both adults and students. He is pedagogically well informed with a profound depth of knowledge regarding methodologies and instructional strategies relating to the Visual and Performing Arts as well as the other curricular areas. Mr. Basom is equally comfortable and effective whether he is teaching in the classroom with our young students or presenting a high level and enriching workshop to a group of teachers. He uses a constructivist approach that is solidly grounded in the California and National Standards for the Visual and Performing Arts.

The Visual and Performing Arts is a curricular area of high priority at Rosemont. Mr. Basom has worked with Rosemont staff and students for two years. His model theater lessons have greatly improved the self-expression, confidence, imagination, concentration, and communication skills of the many kindergarten through fifth grade students who have had the opportunity to work with him. The teachers, who have observed and participated in Mr. Basom's lessons, have been inspired to creatively and consistently integrate many effective drama strategies and techniques across all of the curricular areas.

Close to ninety percent of our students are classified as English Language Learners. Mr. Basom's gifted instruction is designed to bridge their abilities in the domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking towards mastery of grade level standards for the English Language Arts. Using a multi-sensory approach, Mr. Basom enables students to use mind, body, voice, emotions, and social interaction to build the confidence, conceptual base, and high-level vocabulary needed to produce a successful and literate individual. Teachers have commented to me that Mr. Basom's drama lessons have been a great vehicle for improving comprehension, retention, and motivation for learning. Our English Language Learners have blossomed before our eyes working with the wonderful teacher.

We look forward to our continued association with Mr. Basom. He is responsible, hard working, flexible, and enthusiastic. We feel his instructional expertise in the Visual and Performing Arts will be an enormous asset to any school who elects to avail themselves of his services.

Sincerely,

Evaristo Barrett, Principal