



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Community and Culture
Palmer DePaulis
Executive Director

Division of Arts & Museums
Margaret Hunt
Division Director

18 May 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of enthusiastic support for Donna Pence, a gifted artist as well as a gifted teacher. I have been the Arts Education Program Manager for the Utah Arts Council since 1991. In my tenure I've worked with many professional teaching artists as we've placed them in schools throughout the state. Good arts teachers are easy to spot. Their teaching manifests in the visual, performing and literary art work their students create.

Donna's students at the Beehive Science and Technology Academy did exceptionally well this school year. Four of her students had work selected for the Utah Arts Council's Traveling Exhibition Program's newest exhibit, *Future Monets, Manets and Mary Cassatts*. Other students had their work selected for the prestigious Utah High School Art competition and exhibition sponsored by the Springville Museum of Art. This competition includes junior and senior high school student works from throughout Utah. Students are honored at the Legislature and lauded by legislators and the Governor.

Donna is a highly recognized professional in her own right. More importantly, she shares her passion for the arts with her students. She guides them as they explore their own artistic expression by transforming abstract concepts into works of art. Her students gain capacity to communicate meaning through their work and they are able to communicate in ways beyond text and speech.

Please consider her seriously for any position teaching the arts. Thank you for this opportunity to support her application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "JEAN TOKUDA IRWIN".

Jean Tokuda Irwin
Arts Education Program Manager