

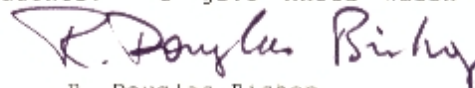
Recommendation for ANITA WALSH
Performing Arts Emphasis

In her four years at the John F. Kennedy School, Anita Walsh created an image that few people will forget. She certainly counts among the most talented, dedicated, and individualistic students with whom I've worked in my fifteen years of high school theatre directing.

Anita arrived at the Kennedy School, a bi-lingual, bi-cultural German-American school, in her ninth grade year and began performing that first year. During the next four years Anita managed to perform in four Broadway musicals, three year-long drama courses, and three different theatre ensembles for the International Schools Theatre Association's annual festivals. In addition, she actively participated in the vocal music program and maintained instruction in the visual arts.

Throughout her diverse performing arts activities, Anita displayed several dominant, key qualities. Most obvious is her innate ability to read and to respond to an audience. Anita possesses a remarkable sense of moment and self, allowing the chemistry of the performer-audience bond to push her to new levels of performance. Second, Anita takes direction well, internalizing instructions quickly and translating them into action. Third of all, she offers to any group a real commitment to the process and the product. Her experiences at the Kennedy School ranges from process-centered ensembles to product-oriented musicals, and in all Anita consistently promoted the goals of the group. She is always a reliable, flexible, actively contributing cast member. Even more important, she is a cast member who will take the initiative and meet the needs of the group, completing much needed costume creation, prop construction, and artwork--in addition to her own stage responsibilities. Her attitude and abilities have combined to make her a pleasure to direct and to view. She's given us much.

However, Anita has also gained much in her four years here. Yet now she seems poised for an even greater challenge to further develop her skills. She would be a wonderful asset to any performing arts program in search of talented, confident, committed, and determined students. I give Anita Walsh my highest recommendation.



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