

April 4, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for my former student, Leda (Holly) Clark. It was two years ago that I had the honor of having Leda in my Composition II (Expository Writing) class at International Academy of Design and Technology. She was an outstanding student, one who thrives when presented with a challenge, and one whose intellect, work ethic, and engaging personality I will always remember and admire.

Winter 2010 was my first term teaching Composition II at IADT. I didn't know what to expect of my class. I did know that my students' writing skills would vary greatly. Some of them had started in Developmental English classes, while others had placed directly into Composition I, based on their placement test scores. When I walked into that classroom on the first day, I knew which category Leda belonged to—and I was tempted to ask her, "How did I NOT have you in my Comp I class??" To say that she fell on the right side of the curve would be an understatement. She's clever, witty, well-spoken, and confident. I'm sure she immediately recognized that she could make my class easy for herself if she had wanted to, which is not to say that my classes are easy. I think that Leda could recognize that in just about any class she would take. However, that's just not her style. She is always out to get the most that she can out of any class, as many of my colleagues have affirmed.

Let me explain further just what I mean about "getting the most" out of her classes. In Composition II, the students' final project was a 10-page research paper. While her classmates groaned (IADT's terms are only 10 weeks long, so finals are especially frantic and stressful), Leda asked if she was limited to 10 pages. I didn't know whether to hug or slap her! I was so impressed by her enthusiasm yet so unwilling to do extra work during finals week. However, when she explained her topic, "Bridging the Gap: Women and Gaming", and gave me an abstract of her work, I couldn't refuse. Of course, her paper ran about 30 pages...but I couldn't put it down—and then neither could my husband. Her choice of topic and her impeccably organized, logical analysis of that topic were like nothing I've read from any student. She is an independent and critical thinker, yet she never takes herself too seriously; teachers and classmates alike enjoy sharing classes with Leda. While, in my opinion, Leda was peerless in my Composition II class, she was always willing and eager to help others and to work as a member of a group. When we had peer reviews in class or had any group activities, she worked only constructively and good-naturedly.

And, I'm just the English teacher. I cannot imagine how thrilled the Game Design instructors at IADT are to have Leda as a student. Leda would succeed in anything she set her mind to. Sadly for me, it wasn't English. Luckily for you, it was Game Design. Leda would be an asset to any academic institution or to any Gaming industry employer. I will be the first who read "Bridging the Gap: Women and Gaming"; you can be the first to see her realize her visions for the Gaming industry.

If you have any questions about Leda Clark, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



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