

September 24, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Cody B Hann and I am writing for the recognition of my professor, Seth Panitch. I have worked with Professor Panitch on many projects as a stage manager and have seen first hand the guidance and knowledge that he passes onto his students and the magic he executes on the stage. Thanks to his leadership, I have been able to grow enormously in my own abilities as a stage manager as well as in the fields of production management, organization, and professionalism. There is never a rehearsal or project in which Panitch does not come prepared; he always knows exactly what needs to be done for the evening and is ready to work hard for the students.

In addition to his productivity in production matters, I have been able to witness the superior acting qualities that Panitch conjures out of his students. Since I am a part of the rehearsal process from the beginning to the end, I see the journey that his actors take. In this process, Professor Panitch encourages them to make choices and to take big risks as well as giving them special improvisations that connect them more solidly to the scene. The production that results from his direction is enthralling and I really do enjoy getting to watch them every night during a run.

On top to all of these qualities, Professor Panitch has really taken me under his wing as a colleague and friend. If there is every anything wrong during a show process or even if its just a bad day, he can always make me chuckle with his witty remarks that let me know everything is ok. Panitch is always a mentor to me and always has an open door and an open ear. I know that I count on him for anything.

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