

September 28, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

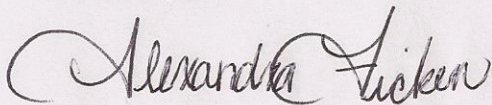
When I was thinking about my college acting career, the University of Alabama's Department of Theatre and Dance stood out the most. Being an out-of-state student, this program is the sole reason why I am here attending UA. I truly believe that much of the success and growth of this department comes from the commitment and dedication of Seth Panitch.

As a professor, Seth Panitch is one of the most professional and determined instructors I have encountered throughout my journey at UA. His ability to challenge his students has affected me in many ways. In the classroom, he works with every student, driving them toward his or her goals. Whether it is a Shakespeare or a Movement class, students come out striving to be better with technique and work ethic. Every semester, students are eager to get in his classes because they respect his love for teaching and acting.

I had an incredible opportunity this past summer to work on a Cuban/American theatre project that Seth Panitch directed at the University. A number of American students and I performed *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Spanish with Cuban actors and I can say it was an experience of a lifetime. Just to be able to have the opportunity to work with fellow actors from a different country was a learning experience in itself.

Since I have been at the University, I have grown so much as an actor and performer because of what Seth Panitch has done for this department. He deserves the recognition for the incredible opportunities he has given his students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexandra Ficken". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Alexandra Ficken  
Undergraduate Actor  
University of Alabama