

Young Audiences Arts for Learning

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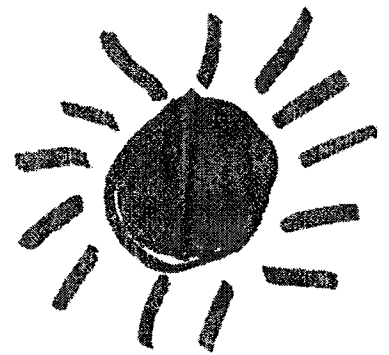
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June 1, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:


It is my utmost pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for WindSync. The ensemble leader Tracy Jacobson and the WindSync members are multi-talented artists who have shown an immense dedication to their art form, innovation and creative education, and the community. As a Young Audiences of Houston (YAH) artist/ensemble member, WindSync has been an integral part of the YAH artist team that serves 300,000+ participants through 2,000+ performances in schools, community centers and libraries each year, though performances, workshops, residencies, and professional development workshops. Through the Young Audiences national network we serve more than 7 million children each year and abide by the highest quality standards as the nations leader in arts-in-education programming.

Through YAH, WindSync has led a variety of core curriculum and culturally infused arts-in-education performances. Currently on the YAH roster WindSync presents "*Peter and the Wolf*," an educational in school performance for Grades 1-5. This program "*provides students with a dramatic and interactive experience that introduces them in an exciting way to classical music. The design of the performance allows for maximum student engagement and participation allowing for students to engage in critical listening, the creative process, and analytical skills.*" As arts-in-education providers, WindSync has enriched the lives of many children by empowering them to understand and retain factual, conceptual, procedural, and cognitive knowledge through the communicative powers of music.

WindSync not only has an impressive list of achievements in the field, but a creative approach to performing and teaching which brings audiences to a true understanding of the communicative power of classical music, the importance of cultural traditions, and cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. The high demand for their performance during the first year on the roster speak to their extraordinary ability to connect with students, educators, administrators, and parents in a powerful and meaningful way.

Young Audiences of Houston over its fifty-five year history of providing arts-in-education programming and partnerships maintains the highest educational, content, and artistic standards and WindSync far exceeds all standards. Young Audiences of Houston feels indebted to WindSync for their essential and irreplaceable work.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 713-520-9267.

Sincerely,

Mary Curry Mettenbrink
Director of Education & Programs
Young Audiences of Houston



RECIPIENT OF THE
NATIONAL MEDAL OF
ARTS