



DOWNERS GROVE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL – FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

4436 Main Street – Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

630.795.8080 (voice) – 630.795.8090 (fax) – www.csd99.org/northfinearts

February 2014

Please allow me to enthusiastically recommend **Ms. Raeleen H. Horn** to you as a motivational speaker and consultant. I have known Ms. Horn for nearly 25 years, and think the world of her as a professional and person.

During her 33 year tenure as *Director of Bands* and *Music Department Chair* at Palatine High School, Raeleen was widely viewed by her teaching peers in the greater Chicago metro area as the consummate professional and as a master teacher. Her bands (concert, jazz and marching) always rehearsed and performed at the highest levels, earning distinction as some of the finest ensembles in the Midwest. She was known in professional music education circles for her commitment to fostering artistic relationships with world renowned professional musicians, and her bands traveled extensively throughout the world.

One of Raeleen's greatest gifts is her ability to reflect on "best practice" teaching strategies, and articulate to others specific methods that allow educators to meet or exceed the highest benchmarks. It was this reputation that made her one of the most sought after "cooperating teachers" in our region; every college or university Music Education professor within a 200 mile radius wanted to place their student-teachers in her classroom.

There are many things that I have learned from Raeleen over the years. The art of professional communication is one that comes to mind immediately. Her ability to build consensus with multiple constituencies is unparalleled. She has direct experience with Public Relations strategies. Each and every time her band toured, her 'media-savvy' created a 'must cover' event in a region where there is no shortage of news stories. She is a knowledgeable speaker on a host of additional topics, including Ethics in public schools, Fund raising practices, Tour planning, and all of the things that music educators must know and be able to do that goes far beyond the actual instruction of music.

I would be hard pressed to think of any other music education professional I would choose as a motivational speaker or consultant. I give Raeleen Horn my unconditional endorsement and highest praise.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brayer Teague".

Brayer Teague

Fine Arts Department Chairperson

(630) 795-8081 – bteague@csd99.org