



1233 Haro St.
Vancouver BC
V6E 3Y5
604.687.5584

August 26, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of reference for Joanne Probyn. Joanne worked as an art consultant at Haro Park Centre in the spring of this year. Haro Park Centre is an accredited Campus of Care located in Vancouver. We provide complex care, special care, assisted living and independent housing for seniors.

Joanne was invited to teach "Watercolours", a six week course based on the fundamentals of watercolour painting. The course was extended to eight weeks as the students were learning exceptionally well and greatly enjoying the experience. There were ten students and the breadth of their abilities was significant; ranging from completely independent individuals, to people with advanced dementia requiring significant support, to those requiring physical support and adaptive tools. The artistic skills of the students ranged from novice to experienced creative professional.

Joanne's responsibilities included course planning and teaching, private tutoring, class preparation and clean up, leading up to four support staff, consultation and purchasing. Lessons included demos, theory, instruction reviews, history and regular feedback on both group and individual level.

Joanne is a knowledgeable and enthusiastic teacher. Her compassion and patience combined with excellent communication skills ensured that all the students had a truly meaningful artistic experience. She was well prepared for each class and worked extremely well with staff and volunteers. All of the students enjoyed coming to class and would attend regularly despite personal challenges that might, under different circumstances, keep them away. Many students requested homework and practiced individually throughout the week in order to further develop their skills.

We have invited Joanne back to teach a new course in this Fall, "Acrylics". We look forward to working with her again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diana Buric".

Diana Buric
Director of Leisure, Volunteer & Building Services

