

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

February 20,1996

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure and honor to recommend Dr. Irene Vasquez and Dan Runyan's theatrical work. I have worked with both Dr. Vasquez and Mr. Runyan for over nine years and have had the opportunity to utilize their talent in working with community based organizations, university groups, and the Office of Admissions.

The work of an admissions office has changed over the years, and it has become a task of not only selling the concept of one's particular institution, but also selling the concept of education to an increasingly diverse population. Over the past years, Dr. Vasquez has created a *learning interactive experience* for our students. Her presentation's are not lectures on the virtues of higher education, but a guided soul searching episode that helps prospective students to come to their own conclusions. The unique blend of cultures, lecture, and theater bring together an effective combination that yield an affect that can not come from merely an admissions presentation. After talking to students who have experienced Dr. Vasquez, the overwhelming comment that I hear is "Wow, I've never thought of it that way!" The planting of that particular thought, undoubtedly sows the seeds that lead to enrollment.

In context of the Magical Rain Theater Works, Vasquez and Runyan create a whole new sort of theater performance that is appealing to a wide variety of audiences. Their presentations are both educational and entertaining, magical but realistic and bring to life messages and concepts that linger long after the curtain closes. Through explorations of different cultures we become aware of our universal similarities and the essence that binds us together.

I would highly recommend Dr. Vasquez and Mr. Runyan's performances for any audience that is looking for a new experience and a chance to grow in ways that they may have never expected. The Office of Admissions has been truly fortunate to be able to utilize their talent to further our mission and we look forward to working with them again.

Sincerely,

Gloria Vaquera Assistant Director