

To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter recommending Kristin Peters for the Mary Sue Harris Fellowship.

I have known Kristin since birth, and it has been a joy to see her grow into the competent, loving, talented, young woman that she is today. From an early age she showed a true interest in music. One of her favorite Christmas gifts was a little piano that she carried around and played while attempting to make music at a very early age.

I am also a piano teacher. I graduated from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and have been teaching piano off and on for forty five years. I was privileged to be Kristin's first piano teacher. From her first years of training I saw a very talented and dedicated student who committed her time each week to improving her talent. Around the age of fourteen, she became a teacher to a handful of home-school students who came weekly to her home for lessons in piano and music theory.

Upon completing high school, Kristin attended Stephen F. Austin University where she successfully received her degree in music, majoring in piano. I had the privilege of attending her senior recital in May of 2013 and was amazed at her musical growth and depth of musicality displayed in her presentation.

After receiving her degree, Kristin has worked very hard to build her base for her home studio. In my opinion she has acquired a large number of students in a relatively short period of time. Because of her love of music and teaching, she has developed not only her musical abilities but her business acumen to better position herself and her studio's reputation as an exceptional and highly sought after teacher in her community.

In June of this year I attended her spring recital for her students and was impressed by their musicianship and the reception from the audience.

In closing, if I were asked to describe Kristin as a teacher in a few phrases, I would say, highly talented, self motivated, cutting edge in her teaching, and committed to enriching the musical development of her students. In my opinion, Kristin is an exceptional young woman and teacher.

Sincerely,

Belinda L. Thomas