

April 4, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in recommendation of Robbi Kumalo of Balidali Productions, Inc. I have had the pleasure of working with Robbi both as a colleague and as a presenter. Additionally, I am proud to call her my friend. In all my dealings with Robbi, she has been a consummate professional, artistically as well as in business. I have found that she possesses that rare and admirable quality: integrity. What Robbi promises, she delivers.

As a presenter for children's theatre in Mesa Public Schools, in Arizona, I was more than pleased with Robbi's presentation of "The Turtle's Shell." Robbi has an uncanny knack for creating an environment in which children can learn. Robbi does not just tell a story, she creates a production, complete with costumes, lights, sound, and scenery, never mind that most of that is found only in the imaginations of her audience. Robbi embraces her audiences and they embrace her as she takes them on an imaginative journey. She transports the audience across the sea to another land where they meet lively, funny, clever, sometimes shy, sometimes scary, but all very "relate-able" characters. From the first show to the last of nearly 30 performances in Mesa, each performance, character, and audience interaction was delivered with equal energy and enthusiasm.

Robbi never missed a beat. But then, that should come as no surprise, as Robbi carries a message she shares in all her performances, and that is to: Keep the Beat. And by that she means the beat of the hearts of all living creatures on this planet. It is the thing we all share and after her performance, the audience leaves knowing they are all connected in a very special way.

I can recommend Robbi Kumalo without hesitation. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact me. I am now employed by Chandler Center for the Arts and may be reached by phone at 480-782-2693. I can still be reached through Mesa Schools at 480-472-0022 or you may reach me by cell phone at 623-202-2921.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TJ Dyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

TJ Dyer
Mesa Public Schools
Drama Specialist