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To Whom It May Concern:

I write to you on behalf of my long-time colleague Dennis Paul, whom I have known since 1977. He is an enormously creative and prolific artist, administrator and educator. In each of these capacities he has always been highly innovative, effective and always at the cutting edge.

When I first met him, he was at the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, where he made a major contribution to the cultural life of New York through the establishment of the agency's first Development Office. As Development Officer for the DCA, he created outreach programs, workshops and training sessions for a wide range of cultural organizations throughout the Metropolitan Area.

In 1980 Dennis created a graduate level course at New York University's Museum Studies Program. He was a central figure in this program for the next five or six years. He was a gifted and supportive teacher and significantly enhanced the professional level of management in the field.

Dennis and his wife and artistic collaborator, Lynn Small, are both extremely talented artists. Their work has been exhibited widely in the United States and abroad and has received critical acclaim. I had the privilege of working with Dennis in the mounting of a major exhibition of his work at the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers, New York. This exhibition made clear the artistic and intellectual depth of his painting that comes from his passionate interest in the history, literature and poetry surrounding his subject.

Over the years, I have come to admire his dedication to an active art career and his enduring commitment to developing new forms of education. He combines an unusual capacity for creative expression, innovative forms of education and for finishing what he starts. Dennis cares about working with people. He is a deeply committed and highly creative educator, always at the cutting edge. This is exemplified by his exploration of the marriage of technology and art.

I firmly believe that Dennis Paul is an outstanding administrator and would provide strong creative leadership in your organization.

Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (212) 580-3743 or by email, edemezirow@aol.com

Sincerely,

Edee Mezirow

P.S. For your information, below is a brief summary of my own activities in the field of arts administration and fundraising:

EDEE MEZIROW has been an arts administrator and fundraising and special events consultant in New York City for more than two decades. She has assisted arts organizations with fundraising, major special events, marketing, program design, and institutional development. She has also worked with corporations in the development of sponsorship projects with arts organizations. Ms. Mezirow has been Director of Development for: The New 42nd Street, Martha Graham Dance Company, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, American Federation of Arts, and the Hudson River Museum. She served as Grants Officer of the Council for the Arts in Westchester County.

Mezirow has served as consultant to the Film Society of Lincoln Center, The National Corporate Fund for Dance, Columbia University School of the Arts, Host Committee for the 1992 Democratic Convention, Yale School of Drama, Manhattan Borough President's Office, Amnesty International, Jazzmobile, Inc. Mikhail Baryshnikov International Center for the Arts, and the Brooklyn Academy of Music Local Development Corporation.

Ms. Mezirow has been an instructor at the State University of New York in the Arts Management Certificate Program, Lecturer in the Arts Management Program at the Yale School of Drama, and Instructor in the New York University Certificate Program in Arts Management.