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November 7, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to enthusiastically recommend the fantastic guest artist residencies offered by Heidi Latsky Dance. I have been the director of dance at Beloit College for more than 10 years and have had the pleasure of hosting many talented guest artists. The residency provided by Heidi Latsky Dance at Beloit College Oct. 28-Nov. 4, 2007 was by far the most artistically excellent and profoundly inspiring residency we have ever hosted. The final event, a culminating concert of works by Latsky and danced by her company, our students, and dancers of all ages from the community was truly outstanding.

The residency was unique because it went far beyond the expected dance classes, rehearsals and discussions. Latsky's recent work, *From the Limb*, inspired by the expressive physicality of both disabled and able-bodied dancers, created opportunities to offer panel discussions, lectures, outreach and performances that were not only superb in their artistry but also of interest to wide ranging audiences.

During their time on our campus Latsky, along with her associate director Jeffrey Frieze and disabilities advocate Lawrence Carter Long, offered many different inroads to discussing, viewing and participating in their work. Latsky, Frieze and Long offered a panel discussion on *From the Limb*. They led stimulating discussions in classes from various departments such as education, sociology, psychology, biology and our first year initiatives program. They taught excellent classes in dance technique and dance composition, and set Latsky's electrifying choreographic works on our students and dancers from the greater Beloit community. The company held open rehearsals and gave an exhilarating performance at the end of the residency.

Latsky, Frieze and Long are an especially wonderful trio of guest artists because they offer a fascinating combination of strengths and experiences. Long is the director of advocacy for the Disabilities Network of New York City, an alliance of advocacy groups and professional organizations that promotes the participation of people with physical disabilities in society. Diagnosed with cerebral palsy at a young age, he is an activist known for his support of people with disabilities and animal rights. His openness and ability to immediately put a group at ease are crucial for the incredibly successful discussions he leads as well as his fantastic performances. Frieze is the brilliantly talented principle dancer of Heidi Latsky Dance who also works with and on behalf of HIV/AIDS communities. His care-free and joyously playful personality make him the perfect choice for working with both experienced dancers and beginners. Latsky, the mastermind and organizer of it all, is a phenomenal dancer, demanding and fervent in her pursuit of excellence. She is an extraordinary inspiration and especially motivating to the advanced dancers. It was astonishing to see how much our student dancers' performances improved in just one week of working with Heidi. **Her professionalism is exemplary in every way and her willingness to be flexible about schedules, facilities, and personnel, throughout the planning and carrying out of the residency was consummate. It was an absolute pleasure to have all three of them at Beloit College!**

Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information on the residency provided by Heidi Latsky Dance at Beloit College. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Chris Johnson