



To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Jonathan Phenix of Waconia High School in Waconia, MN as he applies for the TCI Foundation Scholarship. I have been Jonathan's high school band director during the past few years and even in this short amount of time, Jonathan has left a lasting impression on me.

I consider Jonathan to be a leader among his peers with an infectious level of enthusiasm, dignity, and positivity. What makes Jonathan different from his peers, however, is that he can inspire those around him to be the greatest versions of themselves that they can be while maintaining a personable rapport with everyone. As a leading member of our saxophone section in the top musical ensembles (concert and jazz) at our school, I have witnessed numerous examples of Jonathan instructing, leading, and encouraging not only those in his section but any student that seemed to be struggling with the material or the social aspect of participating in this performing ensemble. Jonathan's ability to flip between leader and peer with his colleagues demonstrates his self-awareness and empathy.

Jonathan is a constant and positive force within our band and school community. He is heavily involved as a member of our concert, pep, and jazz programs here in Waconia. In addition to this, he is a leader of the Student Council and Conservation Club. Jonathan has frequently come to me with ideas, challenges, and questions about the best way to approach situations he's found himself in with these groups. In these conversations Jonathan is thoughtful, listens, and advocates for his ideas and of those he leads. Additionally, I would like to highlight a quality of Jonathan's that does not always get mentioned in these types of letters and that is Jonathan's commitment to continued growth. Jonathan is constantly challenging himself, seeks improvement, and readily applies constructive feedback. Leadership, in my opinion, is not about what is achieved but knowing one's path for further development and growth for themselves and those they lead.

It is with great pleasure that I give Jonathan my highest recommendation in his pursuit of this scholarship and any further applications he submits. I know that he will quickly become an asset to any department and will be an enthusiastic achiever on any endeavor. If you have any questions regarding my recommendation or need further information, please feel free to reach out to me through my office phone number (952)442-0670 x 4106 or through email, nhansberry@isd110.org

Sincerely,

Nicholas L. Hansberry
Director of Bands
Waconia High School