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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you regarding my former colleague and friend, Maialen Ezkerra. Maia and I worked together for 2 years as co-English teachers in the same group at the International House for Kids in Munich, Germany. Those two years were the best experience I've had so far in my teaching career and a vast majority of this had to do with Maia's work ethic, willingness to help her fellow colleagues, and her undeniable positive attitude that made our overall work environment exceptional.

As a new employee, Maia saw that I was understandably nervous to make the right impressions and show what I could bring to our classroom. She was the first person to extend a helping hand to show me how things were done, advising me on the various and important aspects of care for our preschool group and always willing to answer any questions I had without judgment. It was also very refreshing that she could give constructive criticism and words of encouragement when it was needed most for myself and our fellow colleagues. Maia was dedicated and ambitious in learning new teaching techniques and never saw a challenge she didn't want to take on, making her can-do attitude so contagious that all of the preschool teachers wanted to try harder and improve our teaching skills as well.

Additionally, Maia's attention to detail and the love she openly showed to the kids in our group was incredible. She displayed immense patience with each and every child and communicated with them in ways so that they could understand, trust and love her in return. Maia always encouraged the children to participate in age-appropriate sports or obstacle courses with a focus on strengthening not only their gross motor skills, but to also build confidence in them that they might not have known was there before. This was truly inspiring to see. I can personally say, as a witness, that there was not one child in our two years of working together that did not benefit from having Maia as their teacher.

In closing, I believe Maia's confidence, sincerity, intelligence and empathy would be an exceptional addition to your school. She doesn't know how to bring anything less than 100% of herself to any task in front of her, trusting her own instincts while being open to newer concepts and ideas as well. Maia's bright smile and ever positive attitude would bring nothing but the best to your organization, staff, children, and parents alike. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Marlena Lewis-Mohr