February 17, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Rebecca Raber's application for your position. I have known Rebecca for many years; first as a choral director in the Fargo area and now as a student taking graduate courses in our choral conducting program at North Dakota State University.

Rebecca is a fine teacher. She is organized, focused, encouraging and creative in her approaches to rehearsal. Her students sing well and with energy and vibrancy of tone. Ms. Raber is a role model for many teachers in our state because of her dedication to her choirs and her students, her knowledge and use of technology, her great choices in repertoire, her continuing quest for knowledge and her generosity in sharing any and all of her skills. We send her student teachers whenever possible and they have a wonderful experience.

As a graduate student, Ms. Raber is thorough and insightful in her assignments. It is clear that she enjoys the process and that learning new repertoire is a pleasure, not a chore. In a choral pedagogy class Rebecca took from me she was especially engaged and creative. Teaching teachers would be a great fit for Ms. Raber.

Rebecca has also been involved in ACDA activities for many years. She is currently state president of North Dakota ACDA. She is the editor for the ND ACDA online newsletter and has really moved our state into the 21st century with her knowledge and skills. Her work in ACDA is typical of her service-oriented life. She gives countless hours to this organization in an attempt to help and support other teachers in our state. I can't think of anyone who has given more than Rebecca.

I highly recommend Ms. Raber for a position in your institution. She is a talented, dedicated musician, a gifted teacher, an organized, focused administrator of her programs, and a giving, warm human being who would be a fine addition to your institution.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jo Ann Miller University Distinguished Professor North Dakota State University