

March 12, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a recommendation on behalf of Christopher Lyons. As an Assistant Professor of Music and Director of the Marching Band at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, I have worked with CJ Lyons for several years. Mr. Lyons has been a prodigious student in percussion performance and a dedicated member of the IUP marching band.

As a freshman, CJ demonstrated fairly modest ability as a percussionist; however over the course of the first several semesters he developed a high level of self-discipline and, as a result, he is easily one of the most polished and accomplished percussion students to have graduated from IUP. In November 2008, CJ was the soloist with the percussion ensemble at the *IUP Plays Pittsburgh* concert at Heinz Hall. His superlative performance was the “talk of the concert.”

Most percussion majors are content to perform in one of the IUP instrumental ensembles to fulfill the basic requirements for graduation. CJ was not only a member of the highly select IUP wind ensemble, but performed in the marching band. In addition to the tremendous amount of time required by the performing ensembles CJ has written several percussion arrangements for the IUP drumline over the past several years. Garnering much praise for his writing and teaching, CJ has been on staff for Saegertown and Gateway School Districts as drumline arranger and coach.

CJ Lyons would be an asset to any school music program. I recommend CJ for a position as a music educator.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me 724-397-8980.

Sincerely,

David Martynuik, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Music
Director of the IUP Marching Band