Janet Lilly, Associate Professor/Chair Department of Dance
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am very pleased to provide a letter of recommendation for Andre Tyson as a master teacher and choreographer. I first met Andre in 1985 when I was assisting Bill T. Jones on a choreographic project with the Ailey Company with whom Andre was a principal dancer for nine years. Since 1997 Andre has been my colleague at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Andre is a teacher, performer and choreographer of national and international reputation. I hope that in this letter I can convey some idea of the breadth of Andre's skills in these areas. With this in mind, I would like to preface my letter by stating that I would welcome any calls (or e-mails) regarding Andre's outstanding qualifications.

ARTISTIC WORK: Andre is an exciting and successful choreographer. He regularly receives commissions from a variety of dance companies. His command of dynamic movement vocabulary and theatrical imagery is always stunningly original and as a result his work was selected by the UWM dance faculty to represent the program at the regional American College Dance Festival in March of 2005. Just as exciting professionally was his 2005 world premiere of a commissioned new work for the Milwaukee Ballet.

TEACHING: Andre is a demanding teacher. He encourages dancers to meet their maximum technical and expressive potential with his dynamic movement style, personal charisma and humor. Andre's Modern technique classes are rooted in the Horton tradition. Information is presented in his center work so as to be intuitively and physically understood by students, and the students are then required to use this information when they begin moving across the floor or in center combinations. Andre has been teaching all levels of Modern dance technique at UWM since 1997. He also teaches a dynamite Jazz class that is very popular in our department. In addition to being a dynamic teacher Andre generously goes beyond the terms of his contract and functions as an integral member of the Dance Program at UWM. For example, Andre is the director of the department's body conditioning program and it is through his continued efforts that the department offers several Pilates Method classes every term and that we now have a dedicated Pilates studio and equipment.

Andre Tyson is a dynamic teacher, a stunning performer and an exciting choreographer Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions concerning this immensely qualified candidate.

Sincerely,

Janet Lilly

JANET LILLY: Associate Professor/Chair of UW-Milwaukee Department of Dance. Ms. Lilly joined the Department of Dance at UWM in 1995. As a choreographer, performer and teacher Janet has enjoyed 20 years of professional experience in the field of Dance and Theatre. From 1983-1991, she was a principal dancer with internationally renowned Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, also serving as the company's rehearsal director, master teacher and repertory reconstructor. As a Jacob Javits fellow, Janet received an MFA in Dance with highest honors from the University of Michigan in 1992. Since arriving in Milwaukee, Ms. Lilly has choreographed extensively for the UWM Dance Program as well as continuing to perform and present her work nationally and in New York City. Janet has received numerous choreographic grants including those from: The Arts Foundation of Michigan, The Graduate School Research Award Committee of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, The National Performance Network, The Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Program, a creation and planning grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, and most recently a Choreographer's Fellowship from the Wisconsin Arts Board.