

The Children's Theatre
OF CINCINNATI

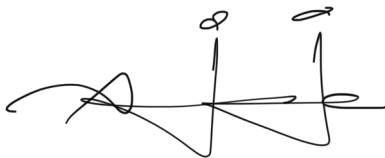
To Whom it May Concern,

When I think of leadership in an individual, a few key words come to mind: professionalism, teamwork, and organization. To me, these three things make up an ideal leader. I also believe that all three of these attributes describe Tessa Killen. I first met Tessa during the filming process of a theatrical production based on the life of Harriet Tubman. I was already working with her father David Killen (a professor at Cincinnati State). I bring up Mr. Killen because I think it is important to think of how someone can become a great leader from their surroundings. Mr. Killen exemplifies all the attributes of a great leader and teacher and he has obviously passed on those traits to his daughter, Tessa.

The first project Tessa and I worked on; she was the script supervisor. This job is extremely important to the filming process as this job keeps the production on track while filming. A script supervisor must break down the script into sections in which the show will be captured on camera. Tessa would also notate the correct time stamps, shots, and takes that would end up being used for the final movie. Though it is very easy to get off track while filming, it is the script supervisor's duty to ensure the production stays true to the script and in time with the schedule. Tessa was always there to lead the production team on the right path and remind us of things we missed or forgot. Her teamwork skills are truly that of a professional who has been working for many years.

The production of Harriet Tubman was not the only time Tessa worked as my script supervisor. Since she proved herself to be an outstanding asset on the first project, I asked if she could help myself and the production team with the next two projects we had lined up. Every time we worked together, she came into rehearsal, watched the show, took notes, asked questions and made sure she was fulfilling her specific duties. Throughout her time working on these productions, her confidence and leadership grew even more. Each time she came to work, she took on more tasks and more responsibilities, making the process and the product outstanding. There were multiple times when I had to remind myself Tessa was still in high school because of her work ethic. I have been in the professional theatre business for many years and can confidently say Tessa holds the bar high when it comes to professionalism.

Tessa will always be someone I will reach out to when I have an upcoming project because she is skillful in what she does and gets the job done. Tessa possesses all of the traits of a great leader and I'm positive would make a good asset to anyone that works with her. I know the talent she has will take her far and wide in everything she does.



A. James Jones
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