

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202430_GR_G
Program Name: MIT

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: David Friedman
Recommenders Institution: Terra Forma
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Executive Director
Contact Name: Ellice Cryder
Recommendation Waiver Choice:
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 11/03/2023 03:29 PM
Recommendation Type: General
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000111635669

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:
Time since last contact with applicant:	Applicant as productive member of group:
Relationship with Applicant:	Applicant most significant strengths:
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Responsibility/reliability:
Communication Skills - Oral:	Communication skills - written:
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Ability to work independently:
Ability to handle stress:	Ability to think critically:
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Ability to think creatively:
Openness to feedback:	Potential for leadership:
Ability to work in a team:	Personal/professional reflection:

Description Information

Description: Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radius>

Other Information

Created Time: 10/20/2023 07:01 PM
Modified Time: 11/03/2023 03:29 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier
Modified By: Josephine Bernier



**Terra-Forma
Education**

Redefining Environmental Learning

David "Caveman" Friedman
Executive Director/Youth Mentor/Naturalist
Terra-Forma Education
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To the Evergreen State College Masters in Teaching Admissions Committee:

I am confident and pleased to recommend Ellice Cryder for admission to the Masters in Teaching program at Evergreen State College. I am the Executive Director and Lead Youth Mentor for Terra-Forma Education, a local non-profit experiential education organization. I have been a youth mentor for 20+ years. I've come to know Ellice through the outdoor education community in Olympia. I have hired her to work with my summer camps, after school programs and tween rites of passage programs. Ellice has been my most dependable employee over the last two years. She is confident, creative, organized and reliable.

Overall, I have seen Ellice to be a strong youth mentor and educator. She has a very creative mind and deep connection with the earth. One of my favorite activities she has brought to our outdoor after school program is weaving with materials found in nature. She used rib bones of a coyote that she had found near her home as the base for a small loom. She then showed the kids how to take gladiola leaves, attach them to the bone loom and weave the leaves together to create a beautiful work of art. The kids took right to it and loved their creations. It is an activity they return to time and again. Ellice has great rapport with young people.

Ellice is always on time, prepared and well organized. She has shown to be an excellent communicator and is easy to work with. She has a strong sense of social justice and cultural respect that I think make her the perfect candidate for your program that is looking for aspiring teachers who seek to center social justice and equity in their instruction.

Ellice is unquestionably an exceptional candidate for graduate study. Her independent research on the ways in which our current education systems could be altered to more effectively nurture marginalized students, specifically Native children, has also prepared her for the MiT program. At our after school program, Outdoor Adventure Kids (OAKs), for the past two years, Ellice has shown great care for all of the youth in the community we have built. We have watched these children grow and become more connected with the earth each day.

This experience and her experience with the Fern Gully Forest School has undoubtedly prepared her to be an extremely positive asset to your program. Her time in the MiT will certainly see her enter the classroom oriented towards students, families and communities.

If I can be of further assistance, or provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

David "Caveman" Friedman
Executive Director
Terra-Forma Education