## Ashley Vancil Smith - Letter of Recommendation

## Joelle Powers <joelle.l.powers@gmail.com>

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To:Graduate Admissions <graduateadmissions@evergreen.edu>

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Ashley Vancil. I enthusiastically and without hesitation recommend Ashley for the MIT program at Evergreen as I know her attributes would make her an asset.

I have known Ashley since she was 16 years old when I had her in my art class at Tumwater High School. She quickly excelled to the position of one of my best performing students. Her artistic skill and talent paired with her innate creativity and work ethic were unmatched. Despite more than her fair share of obstacles and personal struggles, she showed perseverance and optimism of someone well beyond her years. She was and continues to be so passionate about visual art and improving her skills as an artist. Ashley is a lifelong learner and I know she will continue to challenge herself in any venture she chooses.

When Ash first mentioned that she was thinking of becoming an art teacher, I immediately encouraged her to explore this option as I know without a doubt she will be a natural. Ashley is such an absolute love. Her empathy and compassion for others will without a doubt serve her well in this field. She is so amazing with children. By complete happenstance, she is currently employed as a preschool teacher at the program my youngest attended (I learned this the first day I dropped my daughter off). She is such a natural with little ones. Her love for children is very evident and I know this will continue as she builds relationships with her students for years to come.

I cannot possibly express my adoration and pride for Ashley, nor can I fully communicatel how amazing I know she will be as an educator. I have no doubt that she will excel at anything she puts her mind to but beyond that, she possesses traits that are largely unteachable. Her empathy, passion, and inherent drive to do well will continue to serve her and any student fortunate enough to have her as a teacher.

In closing, please consider Ashley as a candidate for this program as Evergreen would be fortunate to have her. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding this letter that may assist in Ashley's placement, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Joey Powers joelle.l.powers@gmail.com (253) 508-3271