March 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm to submit this letter of recommendation for Ashley Ortiz. As a Social Science teacher at Clairemont High School, I have had the pleasure of having Ashley as a student in our World History, Honors US History, US Government, and Economic classes. Ashley has been an exemplary student, and has proven an active contributor to the Clairemont community. She is to be commended for her: strong academic aptitude; respectfulness and sincerity; effective leadership; positive influence; and capacity for future endeavors. Ashley is, without doubt, well prepared to not only meet, but exceed, the demands of higher education and deserving of all opportunities afforded her.

Ashley is considered a top student among her peers, has excelled in her coursework, including numerous Honors and Advanced Placement courses, and beyond proving successful in her academic undertakings, positively influences our school and greater community. Ashley is an active contributor in influencing social change through her involvement in the *Girls Empowerment Club*, promotes artistic expression in the undertakings and activities of the *Art Club*, and has inspired curiosity and continued learning in her work with children at the Fleet Science Center through an externship with *San Diego Workforce*. Ashley exemplifies efficiency and efficacy, never shires away from taking on new challenges, has excelled in her roles embracing academics, personal interests, and involvement in the community- all the while, achieving balance in life, learning, and impacting the world with desire for awareness and positive change and development.

Ashley not only has the skills to meet high stakes demands independently, but also possesses the skills necessary to inspire and lead others to similar ends. Secure in her own aptitude and success, Ashley selflessly and empathetically recognizes the unsolicited needs of others and proactively offers assistance and aid to those in need- a portrayal of good character and of a dedication vested not in her own interest but in the interest of others and the broader community. This character is evidently demonstrated as she consistently takes on the role of leadership in classroom activities and group projects, as well as campus-wide activities such as participation in campus beautification- contributing to the inspirational mural adorning our gym, and organizing and leading the charitable *Toys for Tots* toy drive for a school in 2019. Ashley is a natural leader whose ability to motivate others contributes to the overall success of efficiency in collaborative efforts, and her modesty permits the privilege of those working with her the due recognition of their individual and collective successes. Her positive and cheery demeanor is infectious to those she leads and shares responsibility with, which promotes fulfilling working relationships and induces an atmosphere of enjoyable, worthwhile collaborative work.

Ashley’s attitude towards work, is incredulous; she approaches tasks and responsibilities with positivity and passion and not only delights in achieving goals, but also revels in the pursuit of them. Ashley addresses tasks with a positive attitude and an enthusiasm that exceeds the demands of those pursuits. Ashley also demonstrates a sincere and genuine desire for contiguous learning- always with a desire to learn more, to understand and respect differing viewpoints, and appropriately expressing her own, without reluctance to maturate, change, and develop new perspectives and positions. She ventures to understand the world more and hopes to inspire positive change through learning, contemplation, discussion, debate, and the sharing of ideas and multiple perspectives.

Ashley is an incredible individual; a dedicated student, a selfless contributor to the community, an effective leader, a success in collaboration and teamwork, a positive influence in all she involves herself with, and someone impassioned and impressive in her endeavors and pursuits.

It is without reservation that I recommend Ashley Ortiz.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or requests for additional information.



Kenneth Merritt

Social Science Teacher

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