



Amherst Central School District

Amherst Central High School
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To Whom it may Concern:

This letter serves as a recommendation for Mr. Robby Takac's "Music is Art High School Awareness Tour."

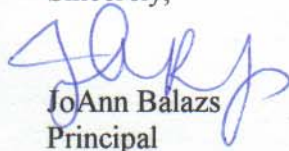
On April 22, 2005, Amherst High School was treated to a highly entertaining free assembly, with a very important message about the importance of school and responsibility. The program, coordinated by Ms. Denise Botticelli, was professionally organized from start to finish. The crew arrived and delivered 3 hours before the event and transformed our auditorium into an exciting concert venue. Most impressive was their desire to involve our students in the set up process. Under MIA's guidance, we selected almost 40 students to be involved in the pre-assembly events, including hands on work with stage set up, sound, and lighting. Students were also given opportunities to meet with the band, interview the members, and take pictures. The pre-assembly activities were as meaningful as the program itself.

The actual assembly included a powerful videotaped message from Robby Takac of the Goo Goo Dolls, a concert in by the Juliet Dagger Band and comments on the importance of staying in school and holding on to what you love – in their case, music. We were also treated to a surprise appearance by Mr. Takac, himself!

I would recommend the assembly to any high school looking to deliver the message of the importance of school and the need to take responsibility for one's actions. The message is delivered in a highly entertaining "cool" manner. We found our students to be especially responsive to this "rock concert" approach. It was particularly attractive to many of our disenfranchised students – the population that is often difficult to reach.

Kudos to Mr. Takac for his efforts with the Music is Art program!

Sincerely,


JoAnn Balazs
Principal