



April 22, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to highly and unequivocally recommend Mr. Carlos Ossa for the position of Spanish Teacher. I have known Mr. Ossa as one of his adult students for over eight years in his role as a Spanish Teacher for adults at The Latin American Institute of Buffalo. During the first four years I attended classes intermittently, and for the past four years I have attended classes weekly. And, in the past four years, I have attended intermediate, advanced, conversational and one on one tutoring classes with Mr. Ossa, giving me a perspective on him as a teacher at various levels.

Mr. Ossa has many personal and pedagogical strengths, not the least of which his are his compelling desire to do an excellent job teaching Spanish to his students, and inculcating a love of the Spanish language and culture, varied though it may be, throughout the Spanish-speaking world. In classes with Carlos, the instruction is always student-centered, allowing students to experience the thrill of learning Spanish as well as the concentration and discipline that it requires. Being in several levels of classes, I have found he varies his approaches, the content, his expectations, and his explanations to closely match the interests and abilities of the students. If one student is speaking at a level that may be more than another student comprehends, he touches base with the student that may have less understanding of the conversation in a kind and effective way.

He uses a variety of different teaching modalities in his classes, including conversation, listening comprehension, oral production, aural skill development, small group work, board games, total physical response, and guest lecturers. Each class has its own particular dynamic, and he is sensitive in supporting that dynamic and the interests and needs of the students as they relate to the dynamic. For example, he will occasionally award "extra points" to a student after she or he has offered a response that is above and beyond what may be required in an exercise or conversational interaction. We all love receiving the extra points. During the classroom he expertly moves between teaching modalities, and will frequently stop an exercise to digress into a PowerPoint presentation on a particularly difficult grammatical issue, such as "por" vs. "para". He has already made the PPT, which he has on many important topics, and he displays it on a large, classroom-sized monitor for everyone to see and to review the key points on the issue. In other words, his classroom management skills are highly effective, they promote active learning, and he has many technological and pedagogical tools in his toolbox at his fingertips.

628 Washington St., 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14203

ph (716) 362-0627
fax (716) 362-0712

www.ViaEvaluation.com

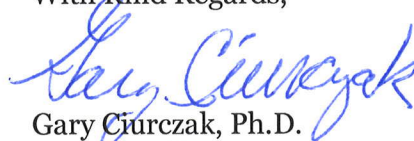


Carlos is highly enthusiastic throughout the class time, and he interacts with each student according to their interests and abilities that he remembers for all of the students individually. Everything that he does in the classroom reflects his commitment and love of teaching Spanish.

On a personal level, I run a small evaluation company headquartered in Buffalo, NY, with nine employees. We evaluate foundation, state and federal education and other grants to school districts and community based organizations across the state, some of which are run by, and serve, a Spanish-speaking population.

In closing, I am confident that Mr. Carlos Ossa would make a positive and substantial contribution to your school, your school climate, and serve as a role model to your students. Please feel free to contact me using the contact information below.

With Kind Regards,



Gary Ciurczak, Ph.D.
President/CEO
Via Evaluation
(716) 362-0627