

Friis, John

From: Matt Hoffman [mjrhoff@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 2:52 PM
To: Friis, John
Subject: support hb6666 section 5

Dear Representative Fleischmann, Senator Gaffey, and members of the Education Committee,

I am writing to strongly advocate for Section 5 of House Bill HB6666, which will allow for adjunct faculty certificates to be issued to the highly-trained professional artists, who serve as ECA's part-time faculty, to continue their 35-year record of preparing Connecticut's high school students for our competitive global economy. If they are required to become certified for 12-hour per week part-time positions, they will not be able to do so and the school will close. This will be a terrible loss to Connecticut's high school students in 19 school districts.

I studied in ECA's Creative Writing Department from 2002 to 2004 and found it to be one of my life's most enriching educational experiences. The workshops I participated in there were carefully balanced between mutual respect and constructive criticism, and continue to form my mental model of how a good workshop should function. In particular, my ECA Screenwriting classes inspired me to pursue filmmaking, a subject I am now majoring in at Boston University.

I can tell you from experience that although ECA's faculty may not have state certification, they are incomparably knowledgeable in their fields and indisputably skilled in communicating their knowledge to their students. It would be a true shame for Connecticut students to be deprived of an ECA education.

Sincerely,
Matt Hoffman

3/16/2009