

Friis, John

From: Alyssa Eilbott [aeilbott@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 6:33 PM
To: Friis, John
Subject: HB6666, Section 5

To Whom It May Concern:

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 am a sophomore at Guilford High School. Theatre is a passion of mine; I love it. I cannot be happy in life without it. ECAs atmosphere and environment are a perfect place to learn and grow. I feel safe and protected. In the theatre department, I have learned to take risks and express myself in ways that I did not know were possible. I used to be a girl who stayed in the shadows. ECA and its amazing faculty have taught me how to accept myself for who I am as I discover more and more. I dont know what I would do without it.

I am incredibly close to my ECA teachers. They are more than my teachers; they are some of my dearest friends. I can trust them completely and I always feel safe around them. They have opened my eyes to new experiences that I would never have seen. They have taught me how to not just feel emotion, but to experience it as I channel it into a character. I have been taught over fifteen styles of theatre and I hope to learn more. My ECA teachers have begun to prepare me for the outside world. They teach me how to be confident with myself. I have accepted my creativity and incorporated it into who I am. All the while I am in a completely safe environment with people I love. They have only begun to teach me what I need to know in order to pursue my career as an actress, and have done so in a way that is encouraging yet realistic. Professional artists know what it is like outside of ECA, and can help prepare their students for it. Their experiences are irreplaceable.

I have learned so much from my ECA teachers in just two years. They have transformed me from a quiet, self-conscious girl into a confident, strong teenager. I have taken what I have learned from ECA, applied it to my life, and grown from it. I have nothing but trust and love for my teachers. They have already changed my life. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Eilbott
ECA, Theatre 2011