

**Friis, John**

---

**From:** Carolyn Ladd [cjladd@snet.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2009 10:53 PM  
**To:** Friis, John  
**Subject:** Raised Bill 6666

Regarding Raised Bill 6666:

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Cara E Guglielmino <ceg325@nyu.edu>  
**Date:** March 15, 2009 10:47:04 PM EDT  
**To:** cjladd@snet.net  
**Cc:** smatheke@aces.org  
**Subject:** Susan Matheke and ECA

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Cara Guglielmino, I am a freshman dance major at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. I recently graduated from ACES ECA as a dance major under the direction of Susan Matheke. I am proud to say without the guidance Susan as well as Willie Feuer and the rest of the faculty in the department, I would NOT be where I am today. Susan and Willie were expert teachers, role models, and trusted friends. Their contacts and familiarity with the dance world have helped me tremendously. The instruction I received from them as well as from guests artists like Earl Mosley and Freddie Moore have exposed me to and assisted in the development of a network that is vital in this field.

Certification has nothing to do with the education offered from ECA. ECA is a community of artists and aspiring artists unlike a high school community where there are teachers among students. The difference between a working artist and a teacher is talent. They can better identify and guide students with potential for success in the demanding world of the arts. If ECA requires the teachers to be certified the quality of instruction will be irreparably destroyed.

Aspiring artists in Connecticut have a limited number of opportunities to receive talented, quality instruction. If ECA's structure is changed, I am concerned that future students will be greatly disadvantaged and their ability to compete in the art world will be lessened. ECA also provides an important service to students in the New Haven Area who have no resources to receive this level of artistic instruction for free. I graduated with fellow classmates who lived in poverty and ECA has given them the opportunity to have a successful future. Quality art instruction should be available to all students, not just the ones who can afford it.

Sincerely,

Cara Guglielmino