

Friis, John

From: christineamenta@sbcglobal.net
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 6:25 PM
To: Friis, John
Subject: Hb6666 section 5

To whom it may concern,

My name is Christine Amenta and I am a freshman at Long Island University, Brooklyn campus and major in dance. I would have never been able to further my dance career in college if it wasn't for my 4 years at ECA in the dance department.

Susan Matheke, the chair of the dance department, has been one of the most inspiring and influential teacher I have had. Her bio speaks for itself with her impressive education and experience in the dance world. Susan and Willie Feuer, her husband, are renowned Argentine Tango dancers in the field, and have endless amounts of knowledge to offer to all the their students. They act as mother/father figures, treating each student as if they were their own child.

All the teachers in the dance department are far above qualified to teach at ECA. As a proud alumni of ECA, I personally think it is outrageous that the committee would even consider letting go teachers who do not have a specific teaching degree. The arts can not be learned out of a book, it is learned from experience and people who have had experience. I would rather be taught by a teacher who has years of experience and no degree then by a teacher who only has a diploma to show as "experience."

It would be so sad to watch you tear such an amazing program apart because of something so small. The teachers that are there now, especially Susan Matheke, are more qualified then anyone. They know the program inside and out unlike any other.

Please do not be the one to deprive talented kids from being taught by the best.

Thank you,

Christine Amenta

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T