



Alyse Knorr
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To the Selection Committee:

I first met Violet Mitchell when she enrolled in my Introduction to Poetry course at Regis University in the fall of 2016. Since then, I have had the privilege of teaching and advising Violet for three years as she progresses in her writing career. I am writing to offer my highest recommendation for Violet to receive a fellowship at American Magazine. Her writing talent, professionalism, and dedication make her an ideal candidate for this position, and I am confident that she will make use of this opportunity to significantly advance her professional development.

Violet is a serious writer, producing some of the finest work I have seen from an undergraduate. Her writing is carefully crafted, sonically rich, and formally precise. In her poetry, she often employs a delightfully strange, surreal tone to explore issues of family and identity, and her work is politically aware and socially engaged. She is committed to her apprenticeship to the craft of writing; she drafts boldly and revises without holding anything back. She also reads widely and employs what she takes away from her models to great effect. She is such an exceptional student that she is the first student to ever begin Regis University's MFA program coursework as an undergraduate.

In the classroom, Violet displays fantastic dedication to her assignments as well as unparalleled compassion and respect for her colleagues, both of which will translate well into any work environment. Violet is a consistent leader during in-class discussions, contributing fascinating ideas to our discourse about readings and course material. Half of the class periods in my creative writing courses involve intensive peer review workshops of student writing, and Violet handles these with excellent poise. She listens to her peers' opinions attentively and respectfully and offers helpful, eloquent, and constructive criticism of others' work. She is a mature collaborator with an impressive work ethic. Her enthusiasm for learning, as well as her passion for writing and helping others, make her an absolute joy to work with.

Perhaps Violet's finest quality, however, is her positive attitude and personality. She is incredibly friendly and polite, and genuinely cares for her professors and peers. She has a deep, innate sense of curiosity and keen observation skills—abilities that make for great writers. Violet has an inspired drive to better her own writing, and her work has grown considerably in the time since I first met her thanks entirely to her hard work and dedication. She is more than prepared for the rigorous demands of any challenge that comes her way.

I am confident that working alongside your team will make a lasting impact on Violet's professional development, and that she will thrive in this setting and make significant contributions to your publication. I hope that you will offer her this excellent opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AK".

Alyse Knorr
Assistant Professor of English, Regis University