

To whom it may concern,

My name is Justin Dearing and I am the Multimedia/Marketing Specialist for Mansfield ISD and formerly the department head of the Arts/AV department at Ben Barber Career Tech Academy in Mansfield. I am writing this letter of recommendation for Mr. Daniel Kelly, a student that I have had the great pleasure of working with for the last two years as he progressed from a beginner in the Film Production class to where he stands today, on the verge of graduating and standing at the top of the program. I could spend multiple pages telling you about his growth as a filmmaker and the numerous accolades he has accomplished over your time with in the program at BBCCTA, which include receiving the award for rookie of the year in 2015, having a film selected for the High School Film Festival in New York , not once, but twice, and his constant support of Mansfield ISD Athletics through production of videos for our teams as they progress through successful seasons. Before Daniel had even stepped into the film program at Ben Barber, he had already had a music video selected to the High School Film Festival in New York City. He came by on the first day of school and introduced himself and asked if I wanted to go to New York with him to meet Andrew Jenks. I laughed and didn't take him seriously, but upon reviewing his acceptance letter, I knew immediately that we had a special kid in our program. We preach in our department that everyone has a story to tell, and how that story is told will set your film apart from "videos" other people are making. His story is the story of the guy who sees the story before it happens and captures it beautifully through his filming and creative editing. His story is one of finding himself and what he wants to do with his life, and once he realizes it, he will explode with creative power. His story is one of the good ones you like hearing. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to teach Daniel Kelly about the filmmaking process and watch him grow into the award winning filmmaker he is today, but more importantly, I am thankful that I have gotten to watch a young star find his passion and chase it. Daniel Kelly is the PERFECT candidate for entrance or acceptance into any job, university or scholarship he wants. I just hope he remembers my red carpet tickets when everyone gets to see him achieve his dreams.

Sincerely,

Justin Dearing

Mansfield ISD Communications Department

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