



5/13/2019

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the workshop and creative experience that Mr. Rashaun Allen offered the scholars of Boys Hope Girls Hope New York (bhghny.org) during a poetry workshop this past March, 2019.

He was one of a group of teaching artists who created and facilitated workshops focused on our program wide therapeutic theme, *The View from Here*. As a program we were exploring the concept of personal vantage point and perspective and this was expressed through many mediums, including poetry. Within his workshop he offered an interdisciplinary approach; utilizing collage, collaborative writing, personal narratives and group performance.

This creative and alternative approach to poetry allowed for our scholars to fully express themselves and experiment with this modality. He offered them the confidence and self-assuredness to get up in front of their peers at the Annual BHGH Art Show and present their works. I was so impressed by what he was able to assist them in creating in such a small window of time.

It is with confidence that I recommend Mr. Allen for future work and aim to involve him with our scholars moving forward.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions and needs,

Naomi Cohen-Thompson, ATR-BC, LCAT

Director of Wellness and Therapeutic Services, Boys Hope Girls Hope New York