



A MUSICAL DRAMA • BY PAUL GREEN

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To Whom it May Concern,

This letter constitutes a passionate and whole-hearted recommendation that Steve Burch be awarded the position of full professor at the University of Alabama. As a graduate student pursuing an M.F.A. in Acting, I have had the pleasure of both assisting Dr. Burch in teaching Theatre 114, and taking multiple academic courses from him, including Script Analysis, Theatre History I, and Playwriting. In both capacities as a mentor and professor, he has always shown remarkable care for both me as a student and as an individual. He is not only fiercely intelligent, wise, and patient, but he understands that students do not live in an intellectual vacuum, and frequently opens his heart and home to students, connecting on a greatly appreciated personal level. I have, on multiple occasions, trusted Dr. Burch with both my academic and personal struggles, and the places they intersect. Next semester I am thrilled to be doing an independent study continuing my playwriting with him. When I approached Dr. Burch with this proposal, he enthusiastically supported me, generously offering his time and advice as he does in all

situations. I can honestly say that I cannot think of a person who more fully exemplifies the academic wisdom and personal integrity that I hope the University of Alabama seeks in all its professors.

I could write more, but I am certain that you have quite a few letters from students all attesting to Dr. Burch's unreserved qualifications for full professor.

Sincerely,

Andrea J. Love

GTA Dept. of Theatre and Dance
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Andrew Brown
120 15th Street East, Apt. 6301
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Andrew Brown

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to recommend Dr. Steve Burch for the position of full professor. I was a student of Dr. Burch's TH-483 playwriting class in the spring semester of 2014.

Dr. Burch is the most supportive and effective teacher that I have ever had at this university. Through tactics of effective written and verbal communication, Dr. Burch has demonstrated a unique method to capture my attention and help me learn confidently and effectively. Dr. Burch is also very accessible outside of the classroom to any and all students who need help. He is without question the most encouraging and helpful teacher I have ever had the pleasure to learn under. Any and all comments from my fellow classmates will certainly confirm that I am not alone in this impression of Dr. Burch. This department has several fine professors, and Dr. Burch is a credit to it.

Sincerely,

Andrew Brown

To whom it may concern,

My name is Matt Davis. I am currently an MFA candidate with a concentration in Directing at The University of Alabama, and it has been a pleasure taking classes in Script Analysis, Dramatic Criticism and Theory, Feminism, and Playwrighting with Professor Steve Burch.

Professor Burch is a scholar, and his ability to address critical thinking in the classroom is extraordinary. He does not dictate information to his students; instead, he allows his students to broaden their minds and guides them into developing their own truth and meaning. Theatre is a field that thrives when its students feel part of a whole, and understand the importance of subjectivity. Professor Burch's approach is an incredible way to operate within the classroom. He nurtures his students through thought, and not dictation.

I had never considered myself a writer, but after studying Dramatic Criticism with Professor Burch, I am currently editing a book review for publication in a scholarly journal. His course in playwrighting has opened up a new chapter in my life: I am also in the process of work-shopping 5 new short plays in Chicago this summer and I'm developing my first full length play. I now have aspirations to have my plays published and produced as well.

Excellent educators make the student stronger, confident, and ready to take the world by storm. Professor Burch has always made himself available to me to help foster my success, and for that I will always be grateful. He has played a pivotal role in my education, and the University of Alabama is lucky to have him.


Best Regards,

Matt Davis

The University of Alabama

Graduate Teaching Assistant

MFA - Directing

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