



Letter of Recommendation for Diane Baas for Full Professorship/UNO

November, 25 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this letter in full support of Diane's application for full professorship at the University of New Orleans. Simply put, Diane is a remarkable asset to any theatre program, and we feel incredibly fortunate that she calls New Orleans home. She is, without question, one of the most skilled, professional, and generous artists in the city. While her unassuming and humble demeanor may sometimes allow her to be overlooked initially, Diane's exceptional artistry, her unwavering commitment to her students and to the UNO Theatre Program, and her deep dedication to the New Orleans theatre community make her a truly extraordinary figure.

We first had the privilege of working with Diane during the early days of the Tennessee Williams Theatre Company (TWTC), when resources were scarce, our lighting equipment was minimal, and we operated in challenging spaces. Despite already being an accomplished and in-demand lighting designer—working with respected institutions such as Tulane Summer Lyric—Diane graciously agreed to collaborate with us. She not only brought her unparalleled expertise but also lent us her own lighting equipment, a gesture that helped us overcome significant hurdles. This generosity and commitment have been hallmarks of her professional ethos throughout our many years of collaboration. As TWTC has grown, Diane has become an indispensable member of our company, known for her meticulous attention to detail, her collaborative spirit, and her kindness, which permeate every project she undertakes.

Diane's credentials as a Big Easy Award-winning lighting designer speak volumes about her talent and dedication. She is, without a doubt, our first choice for any production, regardless of its complexity or scale. Her problem-solving abilities are exceptional, and her capacity to train students to excel in a competitive market makes her a truly outstanding educator. Diane not only imparts technical knowledge but also equips her students with the tools, confidence, and creative thinking needed to thrive in their own careers, bringing distinction to the UNO Theatre Department and the university at large.

It is difficult to overstate Diane's impact on the theatre community and her potential to contribute even more through a full professorship at UNO. We are honored to offer our strongest recommendation and know that she will continue to set the standard for excellence in education, innovation, and collaboration.

Sincerely,

Nick Shackelford & Augustin J Correro, M.F.A.

Founding Co-Artistic Directors

The Tennessee Williams Theatre Company of New Orleans