



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
J.T. & Margaret Talkington College of Visual & Performing Arts
School of Music™

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To Whom It May Concern:

It is my privilege to write this recommendation letter on behalf of Brigido “Beau” Garza. I have had the wonderful opportunity to work with Beau and his program for several years now and was delighted when he began pursuing a graduate degree in our Summer Masters in Music Education program at Texas Tech University. Beau is a highly successful teacher and mentor. He has made incredible contributions in the string music education community of Texas. I am thrilled to have him as a colleague in our profession and greatly support his nomination for Member-At-Large for the Texas Orchestra Directors Association. Please allow me to briefly outline a few of the excellent qualifications and contributions.

Beau is a gifted musician and conductor. He is well respected as a colleague in his district, region, and across the state. He has had the honor of collaborating with renowned performers and conductors including the Cassatt Quartet, Benjamin Zander, and his ensembles have been invited to perform nationally and internationally. Beau is a fantastic performer on viola and other secondary instruments. He models well and understands the complexities of teaching and performing on each string instrument. He strongly encourages his students, especially those considering music education as a career, to also learn and perform on secondary instruments. He performs in the Midland-Odessa Symphony Orchestra and in many other performances in our area of the state. He has also been the invited guest clinician/conductor for several region orchestras in Texas and frequently judges in a variety of capacities.

Beau is a dynamic educator. He inspires his students with his performance abilities and can easily dissect a passage to craft a pedagogically sequential lesson to assist students to achieve his high musical expectations of them with the thoroughness of a veteran teacher. During his classes and rehearsals, he has brought creative and engaging activities to further enhance the new strategies he has learned. He has exhibited excellent skills in conducting, lesson planning, technology utilization, rehearsal methodologies, and assessment techniques as well. Additionally he has been called to share his expertise for professional development sessions to assist other orchestra directors. His success is further supported through the achievements of his students, ensembles, and young teachers in his district that he mentors. He and his ensembles have participated and earned sweepstakes and superior awards at the annual UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation.

Beau is a cheerleader for his students, colleagues, program, and music education. He is an advocate for the future of music education and encourages his students daily to strongly consider music and music education as a viable and valuable career. Beau has the ability to work with people in a positive manner and possesses the gift to motivate his students and colleagues as a successful mentor. Beau possesses the natural skill to develop relationships with students, parents, administrators, and the community. He is gentle, yet direct, and able to assess a situation from all sides before working together with all parties to develop a solution. Beau has also exhibited excellent planning and organizational skills.

I give my highest recommendation for Beau Garza. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Blair A. Williams".

Blair A. Williams, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of String Music Education, Director of the TTU String Project
Texas Tech University