



July 31, 2014

To Whom it May Concern:

As Director of Marketing and Design for OHEKA CASTLE and Founder and President of Gold Coast Mansions Historic Long Island, I've known and worked with Chris Collora as a media professional since 2008.

OHEKA CASTLE is a 1920's Historic Mansion, and former residence of Otto Hermann Kahn, located on the famed Gold Coast of Long Island, NY. Today, OHEKA is a prestigious Wedding and Event Venue and a member of Historic Hotels of America and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Gold Coast Mansions HLI is a group of Historic Gold Coast Mansions from the Gilded Age to the Roaring Twenties which are open to the public.

I had the pleasure of meeting Chris during a Fair Media Council Connection Day, where he was a speaker on a reporter panel. Here I pitched him a story on OHEKA CASTLE, which in turn inspired him to learn more about the Gold Coast Mansions of Long Island and the many stories these mansions have to tell.

Since then, Chris has dedicated his time, sharing his talents and media expertise as a volunteer media consultant for the Gold Coast Mansions Historic Long Island group. His work has included the creation of several video stories; building and maintaining the group's YouTube channel; regularly contributing ideas and suggestions; and covering events as a reporter at LI News Tonight, AOL's Patch.com and his own news website Long Island Online News. One of Chris's most notable interviews on the Gold Coast Mansions was with world renowned author Nelson DeMille.

For OHEKA CASTLE, successfully acquired coverage for OHEKA on Time Warner Cable's NY 1 News "Travel with Val" segment; covered several of the Friends of OHEKA's annual Gatsby-themed Garden Parties, which raises scholarship money for graduating high school students perusing a career in the arts; and produced an entertaining and informative story on OHEKA's pastry chef about the challenges of making unique wedding cakes for the Huntington Patch.

Chris has always demonstrated a deep understanding and respect for historical and cultural subjects. He worked with Long Island Historian and accomplished Author Paul Mateyunas to pitch two book proposals, highlighting Long Island's Historic North Shore and South Shore

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Mansions and Sites, to Arcadia Press. Paul wrote the first book about the North Shore's Gold Coast Mansions and Chris followed by writing the second book, entitled "Long Island Historic

Houses of the South Shore", which featured the lesser known south shore mansions and historic sites on Long Island. The books continue to help promote and raise awareness of these mansions and historic sites on Long Island and around the World.

Based on his experience and track record of working with OHEKA CASTLE and the Gold Coast Mansions HLI group, I believe Chris would be an outstanding addition to your staff or freelance partner in a journalistic, public relations or media consultant role.

Sincerely,

Nancy Melius
OHEKA CASTLE, Direct of Marketing & Design
Gold Coast Mansions HLI, Founder & President