



To whom it may concern:

September 27, 2022

My name is Christine Stoddard and I am the director and owner of Quail Bell Press & Productions, a creative studio based in Brooklyn, New York. I had the pleasure of supervising Sydnie Stern as a summer intern for Quail Bell from May to August 2022. Her main projects included assisting with the award-winning stage play "Mi Abuela, Queen of Nightmares" and the new book *Lunar Phoenix: An Anthology of Black Voices By Quail Bell*.

Sydnie proved to be an invaluable team member for the world premiere of "Mi Abuela, Queen of Nightmares" at the Gene Frankel Theatre in New York City in June 2022. She assisted with script proofreading and formatting, in addition to updating the script with stage directions discovered during the rehearsal process. This effort involved a mix of strong editing, writing, research, and documentation skills. One of the reasons she succeeded was because she took such diligent notes during the rehearsal process. Her outreach efforts involved writing press releases and sponsorship letters, developing social media strategy, and more. Once the show was up and running, she chipped in wherever necessary. She even worked at the concession stand! Thanks to Sydnie's help, the script was well-prepared for its August 2022 reading at Fulton Theatre, an equity theater in Lancaster, PA, where it won a national competition. Sydnie's dedication has allowed for the play's continued success: a release of a filmed version on Vimeo On Demand and excerpts at the Chashama Festival and Arts On Site in New York in October 2022.

Sydnie's work on the *Lunar Phoenix* book was equally impressive. She worked on proofreading the entire book, converting files between programs, and preparing the book for printing. She had a hand in promoting the book, too. She wrote a beautifully crafted press release that snagged the attention of the *New York Amsterdam News*, an esteemed Black newspaper, which led to an article about the project. The experience gave her a bird's eye view of the printing on demand process, which she was eager to learn.

Overall, Sydnie is an intelligent, capable, adaptable, and compassionate young lady. She has a keen eye, a good sense of humor, and a can-do spirit that make a huge difference in team environments. (The "Mi Abuela, Queen of Nightmares" cast and crew still talk about Sydnie and her wonderful contributions.) She's a strong writer and proofreader to boot. Hire Sydnie and you won't be disappointed! I am happy to address any questions and elaborate upon these and other examples concerning Sydnie's abilities.

Sincerely,

Christine Sloan Stoddard

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