



Bronx Leadership Academy High School

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm that Rick Muller and his performance of "Pride, not Prejudice" was performed at our school, Bronx Leadership Academy, yesterday January 8, 2009. Mr. Muller and his troupe did two performances, free or charge, to two groups of our freshmen.

The performance was well thought out and thought provoking. The students were entertained but also learned a lot about HIV and AIDS, diseases that are still so stigmatized in their communities. There were two highlights of Mr. Muller's performance. The first was when he spoke about being happy with yourself and that proper decisions are made by self-assured, self-satisfied people. I saw several of the students mulling over in their own heads why they've made bad decisions in the past and felt as though this message really got through to them. The second highlight of the performance was the exposure the students had to someone who was openly gay and openly HIV positive. Freshmen boys, in particular, have a tough act to keep up and I could see that they found themselves really liking and enjoying the company of a person they are supposed to dislike if they want to maintain their image.

All in all this was an extremely beneficial program for our students and I am sure that several of them will change a future decision they make based on what they learned from the performance of "Pride, not Prejudice" yesterday. Everyone learned something, myself and the other staff included! This is an amazing program, one that I hope we can use again in our school and one that I hope continues to spread its message to as many other schools and students as possible!

Sincerely,

Maura Oliphant
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