

To whom it may concern:

It is a pleasure to recommend Jake Oster to be one of your space education teacher liaisons. Mr. Oster is one of our newest Environmental Science teachers at Theodore Roosevelt High School, teaching with the pioneering International Academy team which serves our 9th-10th grade English Language Learners.

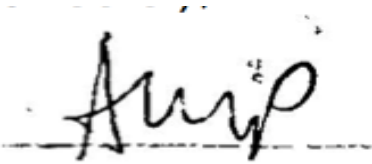
The population we teach comes with its challenges. Most of our students are recently arrived immigrants, with little to no English background. Some also have interrupted education. Mr. Oster does not limit what they learn to the barriers of their language or academic background. Instead, he formulates every lesson with a variety of supports which not only help the students access the content, but also help them develop their language abilities. I have seen this on countless occasions in Mr. Oster's instruction. He is always very creative in providing engaging lessons for his students and tries to find ways to connect his lessons to the world around us.

Mr. Oster doesn't shy from asking rigorous questions to his students, despite the language barrier. The students feel empowered, because they are treated like intelligent scholars. In our recent interviews with some of the students on the International Academy team, one student mentioned Mr. Oster as one of the teachers who inspired him despite struggling in his Environmental Science class, because he really felt that he believed in him.

As a colleague, he has very good rapport with his team and fellow teachers. He has good initiative to coordinating meetings, organizing events, and getting things done, especially when it involves our students. His application to this program is just an example of his continued desire for his students to access every available opportunity.

On behalf of our school community, I strongly recommend him to your program. With his drive and passion, he will be instrumental to your vision of promoting space education to schools.

Sincerely,



Simone Wilkinson
Assistant Principal – International Academy
Theodore Roosevelt Senior High School



Mx. Samuel Brinton
Vice President of Advocacy

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Jake Oster as an upstanding person I have no doubt truly empowers the students lucky enough to be educated by him. Few have been so deserving of attending space camp as Jake. After years of working beside Jake in a variety of projects in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics raising awareness of the challenges and opportunities for LGBT and indigenous students, I am sincerely in awe at the dedication and authenticity they bring to every endeavor they undertake.

Jake participates with his students every day to engage them in culturally relevant curriculum. Aligned with Next Generation Science Standards, lessons allowed students to design solutions for complex problems such as runoff mitigation and also the global implications of industrial farming. Cultural integration is key to engaging minority students, especially those that tend to believe their ancestors contributed little to modern fields of study. Science is too often written from a Causcasian dominant perspective, and curriculum should recognize other cultures' contributions. To this day, the discussions and inspiration those students raised, thanks to Jake's dedication in the projects like this, remind me that open communication **MUST** be at the center of every education. There is no doubt in my mind that the dedicated work for an inclusive campus that Jake has brought to Roosevelt High School will continue in their classroom next year.

I can also attest to the continuous education of others that Jake demonstrates in their work. As the Vice President of Advocacy for 'Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics' (oSTEM) and as leader in the trans* and gender-non-conforming efforts across the country, it has been my honor to watch students like Jake speak up for the students on the fringe. I've seen Jake seamlessly lead students and faculty on conversations that would make many cringe with discomfort. They realize that the message matters.

More than their leading of events and their speeches in front of hundreds of students, Jake inspires me with their dedication to stop, wait, and listen when a student is in need. As a survivor of conversion therapy, I am constantly struggling with access to mental health and suicidal depression. Jake doesn't let the burden of their insane schedule stop them from being there with an ear to hear and wisdom beyond their years. Sincerity doesn't come close to describing their words of comfort and healing which will serve them well in the classroom.

I am blessed to work with Jake and cannot endorse their worthiness of serving as an ambassador to space camp with greater enthusiasm. I'll be happy to speak with you further on their behalf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Brinton".

Samuel Brinton

samuel.brinton@ostem.org



To Whom it May Concern,

As a budding educator, it has been an incredible year so far at Roosevelt High School. I was gifted the opportunity and challenge to teach with the International Academy, who hosts a diverse population of immigrant students new to the United States. This group of students is nothing short of incredible, often being faced with challenges of interrupted education and also barriers to English acquisition. I currently teach Environmental Science, developing curriculum that is globally relevant as well as rigorous. In my class, students continuously shatter my expectations of them, proving that they are young minds capable of communicating and understanding complex subjects such as biodiversity loss due to human impacts, pollution and its impact on the Washington DC area, as well as designing sustainable solutions to runoff mitigation.

Through teaching them, it is apparent that their lives are not those of the average teenager. With many of our students working multiple jobs or acting as the primary caregiver, I constantly look for opportunities for them to enrich their education, but to also be a young adult. When Jem Palo, my colleague, introduced Space Camp to me and told me our students had this opportunity I did not hesitate to support their applications and the program's value to their lives.

I hope to join them in this endeavor, because I do believe that Space Camp can not only improve my own instructional practice but also help me design curriculum for the upcoming school year. Due to the nature of International Academy, I am currently anticipating to teach Physical Science next year instead of Environmental Science. Physics is one of the integral parts to this new course, and also one of the easiest courses to engage our students in hands-on projects. However, it is probably the subject that requires the most attention from me due to its math based nature. I hope that by attending, I can increase my understanding of space exploration, and also how physics and math are integral components for space travel. Designing curriculum and enhancing my background knowledge will ultimately provide my students the in-class opportunities to experience rigorous instruction centered on a career field that they too could participate in.

I am incredibly excited to potentially enhance my professional development, and know that participating in Space Camp would allow me to better serve students for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jake Oster

Jake Oster

jake.oster@dc.gov

262.960.9316

Present Address:

1200 First St, Apt 729
Alexandria, VA, 22314

EDUCATION

B. S., Northland College, Ashland, WI 54806

Major 1: Chemistry Major 2: Secondary Education with a Broad Field Science emphasis
Anticipated graduation May 2017

Carroll University, Waukesha, WI 53186

Beginning studies in Chemistry and Secondary Education with a Broad Field Science emphasis

SCHOLASTIC HONORS

Francis Lavine Native American Leadership Scholarship	Fall 2016-present
Northland College Academic Transfer Scholarship	Fall 2014-present
Wisconsin Grant	Fall 2012-present
Praxis II: General Science, Top 15% national score of 186	Dec. 2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching and Student Outreach

Student Teacher

Bayfield High School, Bayfield, WI 03/17-06/17
District demographics: 70% free/reduced lunch, 75% Native, 25% identified as exceptional needs
Collaborated with alt. ed. students to develop research projects on chaga growth, mushroom diversity, and sacred tobacco growth
Designed engaging lesson plans for physics classes for sound, light, and lenses Assessed student performance using informal and formal assessments

Ashland Middle School, Ashland, WI 01/17-03/17
Documented student health issues and acted as a mandatory reporter
Collaborated with the cooperating teacher to create earth science lesson plans
Observed multiple IEP and crises intervention meetings with the cooperating teacher
Engaged with indigenous students through round dances and playing lacrosse

Outreach Assistant, Indigenous Cultures Center, Northland College 05/15-05/16
Created marketing materials for the Center using Adobe Suite products and Canva
Facilitated cultural learning workshops across campus
Balanced finances for both the Center's craft room as well as the Native American Student Association
Planned large-scale public events for Native American Awareness week
Represented the college at regional powwows and cultural events

Practicum Experience

Washburn High School 08/16-12/16
Assisted the cooperating teacher in a flipped-classroom environment
Developed engaging lesson plans using EdPuzzle, Duolingo, and Google Classroom Prepared documentation for IEP referrals

Practicum Experience (cont.)

Ashland High School

01/16-04/16

Communicated with students to develop rapport and build a diverse environment

Assessed students with NGSS aligned assessments

Collaborated with the cooperating teacher to develop parent emails and newsletters

Student Engagement Experience

WI State Representative, Midwest Bisexual Lesbian Gay Transgender College Conference (MBLGTACC) Oversight

Committee

02/13-02/18

Collaborated with other State Representatives to review/revise the conference's constitution and bylaws

Managed state-wide networks of college organizations and facilitated student communication

Worked with other Representatives to incorporate the conference

Represented diverse groups of students at a national conference level

Outdoor Orientation Leader, Northland College

04/15-08/16

Coordinated with student colleagues to develop a 5-day trip in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness Area

Trained with over 40 other students in survival, group process, and conflict resolution skills

Assisted incoming students and their families during Arrival Day

Lab and Field Research Experience

Wild Rice Summer Internship, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)

6/16-8/16

Recorded quantitative and qualitative data on over 30 wild rice beds across northern Wisconsin

Surveyed lakes and streams for wild rice degradation, wildlife impact, and environmental change

ARELab Research Technician, Northland College

09/14-05/15

Assisted the ARElab in revisions of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) documents and development of

methods pertaining to Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)

Prepared BOD samples and analyzed the effects of synthetic and organic seed types on sample reliability

Trained and evaluated samples for E. Coli, Total Suspended Solids, Total Phosphorus, Total Soluble

Phosphorus, and Total Nitrogen

Constructed real-time weather datasheets to track barometric pressure and temperature for the laboratory

Chemistry Department Assistant, Carroll University

09/13-05/14

Delegated organization of two full stockrooms for supplies and chemicals

Developed SOP documents for laboratory instruments and evaluated performance

Collaborated with chemistry department professors to ensure clean laboratories and properly distributed materials

Constructed a chemical inventory system that was submitted for consideration with new building plans for Fall 2016

Reviewed and updated Material Safety Data Sheets for all stockroom chemicals

Quality Assurance Chemist Internship, Roquette America, Inc.

09/11-08/13

Responsible for daily post-production waste water analysis along with finished sorbitol and maltitol analysis

Worked to analyze Carbon On Demand, Total Suspended Solids, Mixed Liquor Volatile Suspended Solids, and other environmental chemistry parameters

Collaborated with colleagues in researching new linings for steel drums

Researched new methodology for total alkalinity and dissolved ni

CERTIFICATIONS

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

EA-A license

File Number: _____

Expires Jun. 2022

Safe Zone Trainer Certification, Northland College

Does not expire

CPR / First Aid Certified

Expires Jun. 2020

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

International Academy NYC In-service

Sept. 2017

Attendee, Ashland Middle School In-service

Mar. 2017

Presenter, MBLGTACC

Feb. 2017-2018

Attendee, MBLGTACC

Feb. 2013-2018

Member, Professor Candidate Feedback Committee

Spring 2016

Northland College, Ashland, WI

Presenter/Organizer, Alliance Diversity Conference

Apr. 2016

Northland College, Ashland, WI

Attendee, Crossroads Sessions Conference

May 2015

Northland College, Ashland, WI