

I am writing as a reference for Caitlin Garfias Chan's application to various scholarships. Caitlin has been a student in five of my classes, MACS 130, 201, 230, 299H, 399K, where she has been a consistent A+ student. I also supervised her directed study on the Evolution of Autism in Movies and Television. Caitlin is exceptional at bringing new ideas to class and making connections between her personal experiences, prior learning, and the course content. She is often first to spark the class discussion with her thoughtful and incisive contributions. She is also very strong at bringing in ideas from course reading and making them applicable to the topic at hand. Her writing matches her discussion contributions, as her writing is a strong mix of engagement with research and personal analysis.

Her directed study on the depiction of autism in media was exemplary work in the field of media and communication studies, as it went beyond just analyzing the media to argue for how media is vital in creating change for people with autism. She displayed she is ready for graduate level work with her study. Caitlin writes and presents with a strong passion for the subject and is an important advocate and activist for creating space where people with autism can be successful. I have learned a lot from her and am sure many people and institutions will learn from her in the future.

Caitlin has a very strong work ethic and routinely shows her dedication to doing her best work through constant communication about expectations and applies feedback well. She is a top student and is exactly who is deserving of scholarship support.

I fully endorse Caitlin's application and offer her the highest recommendation. I would be happy to discuss more about Caitlin's strengths. Please contact me at brett.pardy@ufv.ca or 778.684.1256 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Brett Parly
Instructor, Social, Cultural, & Media Studies
University of the Fraser Valley

