



May 28, 2021

Anne,

I am most happy to write a peer review of Austin Eyer's work: MOVING FORWARD.

I found the work overall to be quite excellent and done with thoughtfulness, creativity, sensitivity, and an artistic sensibility.

- The project ties directly to Austin's areas of interest and research in the areas of Musical Theatre, Directing, and Theatre for Social Change especially during these times of social unrest and burgeoning cries for equity, transparency and change.
- Given the challenges during the COVID period and increased need for student engagement, this project engages them directly through collaboration, creation, expression both individual and collective not only with each other but with Broadway professionals who bring an aesthetic, overview, and guidance that enhances their work.
- Theatre's ability to entertain, educate, and challenge is beautifully captured here. The actors are able to process feeling, thoughts, and translate them into recognizable and difficult conversations that are enhanced with music, song, dance, movement.
- There is clearly artistic oversight in creating the arc of this project, but the process of involving the actors and technicians is valuable and after seeing the finished product will encourage future projects of greater variety and vision. Adding the insights from Broadway professionals and bringing together a work that speaks truth from the heart through editing, arranging, re-arranging results in a fine work. One that the students can be proud of, that Austin can look at with teacherly, fatherly, directorly pride and reflects well on the UT/Arlington Theatre program.

If there is anything else you would like to know, please feel free to contact me.

All best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul W. Mockovak', is written over a vertical line that extends downwards from the signature.

Paul W. Mockovak, Professor, Department of Theatre & Dance

Paul.mockovak@fredonia.edu

O: 716.673.4619

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE