



23rd October, 2017

Jeff Leone
Video Production & Broadcasting Dept.
Nashua Technology Center
Nashua, NH

To whom it may concern at the CTE Excellence in Action Award committee:

I'm writing in support of the Video Production and Broadcasting department lead by Jeff Leone with the Nashua Technology Center at Nashua South High School in Nashua, NH. I feel this program is deserving of the Advance CTE's Excellence in Action Award. I lead the North American business unit for Avid Technology. Avid is well known throughout the Entertainment industry as the leading tool for editing and finishing feature films, television programming and news content for broadcasters and studios around the globe. Avid tools are used to edit 80% of all Feature Films, and 60% or more of all shows on television.

In my 14 years at Avid and over 25 years in the industry I have had the opportunity to work with Universities and Colleges all over North America and very few compare to the level of exposure the Nashua Technology Center offers to it's high school students. The skills Jeff is teaching is based on formal Avid curriculum and augmented with many of the critical skills students need to be fully capable of an end to end video production. From lighting, to videography, editing and control room workflows that mimic live broadcast environments. The life skills the students are learning far exceed any other high school program I've seen.

Jeff has also created an active consortium of local broadcasters, universities and corporate entities committed to the craft of content creation. Jeff is combining the real-world feedback from the consortium into his own program and connecting his graduates with optional paths for higher education or real-world jobs that allow the students to truly express themselves with the art of video production. The skills the program is teaching extends beyond just the broadcast and film world but also to the rapidly growing need for video content produced for web, mobile and social media. I have found the students to be truly ready for any University program or even real-world roles in the production industry. I would highly recommend this program for your award.

Regards,
Jack Northcott
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Nashua Police Department

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Andrew J. Lavoie
Chief of Police

November 6, 2017

To Advance CTE,

I am writing this letter to show my support for the Nashua High School Video and Television Production Center which is led by Mr. Jeffrey Leone. Over the past several years we have collaborated together on several projects to assist the Nashua Police Department in recruiting and training videos, as well as building a better relationship between high school students and our police department.

Mr. Leone's students have worked diligently with the Recruiting Division to record, produce, edit and release videos to showcase our officers in recruiting efforts. One such video is the "Women in Policing" video. This video was done with such professionalism that it is currently showcased on the main page of the Nashua Police Department's website (www.nashuapd.com). We've received numerous compliments on this video from viewers who are surprised it was produced by high school students under the direction of Mr. Leone.

I am a Lieutenant in the Recruiting Division. I am also the chair of Nashua RED Committee, which is a mandated committee from the federal government to look at ways to keep youths, especially minority youths, out of the justice system. During my time with this committee, we have developed a class to teach adolescents how to positively interact with police officers. The class is one hour and taught by police officers to these juveniles. During the class, two videos were filmed by Mr. Leone's class, which shows two different scenarios on how to interact with police officers. Mr. Leone and his students were instrumental in filming and producing these videos, which assisted in making this class a success. To date, over 200 adolescents have seen these videos and we are still teaching this class today. This class has had such a positive reaction to the juveniles who have seen it and it would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work demonstrated by Mr. Leone and his students.

I am confident we will work with Mr. Leone and his students in the future with new projects, and they will continue to show their professionalism and knowledge in video and television that rivals any professional studio.

Sincerely,



Lieutenant Carlos Camacho
Professional Standards Bureau
Nashua Police Department



A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY



*"Where Panthers
Roar
And
Students Soar"*

NASHUA HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH

Keith Richard, Principal

Nicholas Audley, Phil DeRosa, Dennis Hamilton, Lesa McQuesten

Assistant Principals

Lori Coutu, Director of Guidance

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to this letter in support of our wonderful Video Productions program here at Nashua High School South and their application for your prestigious award. Research indicates that that more engaged students are and the more a teacher's lesson relates to authentic real world experiences, students not only perform better, but they gain a deeper level of understanding. There is not another program in our school that exemplifies this approach to education more than our Video Productions program overseen by teacher Jeff Leone.

Watching students enjoy learning is the best feeling a principal can have during his/her school day. Every time I see our Video Production students in the hall, preparing for a scene, adjusting the lighting, making sure the shot is going to be perfect, a smile comes on my face immediately. The students on this program genuinely enjoy their learning experience each and every day. Mr. Leone has created a program that is second to none. I have observed our students complete live broadcasts, create Public Service Announcements in conjunction with our local Police Department and create shows like "Undercover Boss" where students write, direct and produce the short films.

The skills our Video Productions students are learning under the guidance of Mr. Leone will set them up for success beyond Nashua High School South. Whether the students go into the Video Productions field or not, the skills they learn about creating, organizing and directing films/productions by working with their peers, has prepared them for whatever the future may hold. I highly recommend that you consider our program for this honor. If you have any questions regarding our program, please don't hesitate to contact me at 603-966-1100 or via email at richardk@nashua.edu.

Sincerely,

**Keith Richard
Principal**

Nashua High School South