

January 6th, 2026

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing in support of Park Long's audition for your organization. I have known Park since they joined the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Company as an Apprentice in 2019. Following a successful first year in the company they were promoted to Corps de Ballet in 2020. As the RWB's Anna McCowan-Johnson Aspirant Program Director, and guest RWB Rehearsal Director, I work with Park in ballet classes and rehearsals for many of the company's productions.

Park is a highly committed dancer who comes to the studios prepared and open to learn and continue their growth as an artist. They are open to feedback and quick to pick up and retain choreography while learning new works. Park is highly respectful to rehearsal directors and colleagues, and they have developed close friendships within the company during their time here. In addition to their strong work ethic and kindness, Park has solid classical and contemporary technique. They have a lovely light jump, long lines and consistent turning abilities. Park also has a great deal of experience and capability in partnering and shows care to all partners while earning their trust.

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet is a relatively small company that performs here in Winnipeg and frequently on tour. Due to this, the dancers are required to learn various roles in all productions from soloist roles to corps de ballet and they are often required to step into parts at the last minute if necessary. This gives the dancers strong skills in adaptability, confidence and versatility. I have seen Park demonstrate these skills multiple times during performances and they consistently deliver strong dancing and commitment to artistry.

Please consider my sincerest recommendation for Park Long. I believe that they will be a wonderful addition to your organization. Feel free to contact me at vleonard@rwb.org if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



VANESSA LEONARD (she/her)
Anna McCowan-Johnson Aspirant Program Director