

# *Kenny Ortega Co.*

January 19, 2006

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Kenny Ortega and I am a Producer/Director/Choreographer working in theatre, television, movies, Broadway and variety programming for over 30 years. Early in my film career I was fortunate to work alongside and be mentored by GENE KELLY. As a feature film choreographer some of my credits include: "DIRTY DANCING," FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA'S "ONE FROM THE HEART," and FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF. I have also choreographed over 20 world concert tours including BARBRA STREISAND, THE POINTER SISTERS, CHER, DIANA ROSS, MICHAEL JACKSON, GLORIA ESTEFAN, KISS and THE TUBES. I have also choreographed and/or Directed over 40 music videos including MADONNA'S "MATERIAL GIRL." The feature films I have Directed include DISNEY'S "NEWSIES" and "HOCUS POCUS." Recently I have worked on several productions in Las Vegas including Directing GLORIA ESTEFAN at Caesar's Coliseum, "THE SIRENS OF TI" at Treasure Island, and "HAVANA NIGHT CLUB THE SHOW." I was also the original choreographer for the "BELLAGIO FOUNTAINS." I also received TWO EMMY AWARDS (Outstanding Choreography and Directing) for my work on the 2002 SALT LAKE OLYMPICS OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES. It is through my many years in the arts community and my work with literally thousands of performers that I can make an accurate determination when an artist is at the top of his or her field.

I first witnessed Ms. Croft as a performer in Celine Dion's show at Caesar's Coliseum in Las Vegas. Already part of an extremely talented troupe, Sandi stood out as an exceptional performer. When auditioning performers for GLORIA ESTEFAN LIVE AT CAESAR'S COLISEUM I was blessed to have a large number of Celine's dancers try out (Gloria was performing during a break in the Celine season). Out of the dozens that auditioned, Ms. Croft was one of only a handful picked for the show. It was once we worked together that I realized the gem I had found. Friendly, punctual, extremely professional and that doesn't even get into her amazing ability to move on stage (a skill that, once witnessed firsthand, goes without saying). Ms. Croft very much took over a leadership role in Gloria's show and pushed to expect nothing but the best from herself and everyone around her.

It serves me and everyone else who has the privilege to work with her that Ms. Croft is given the opportunity to work in the United States. Her spirit and presence make the world of performing arts a better place and I would hire her again without question if the opportunity presented itself. I could not give a stronger recommendation for anyone, please don't hesitate to contact me with further questions.

Thank you for your time,

Kenny Ortega