



## LITTLEROCK HIGH SCHOOL

10833 EAST AVENUE R  
LITTLEROCK, CALIFORNIA 93543

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PRINCIPAL

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To Whom it May Concern:

Each year teachers have the opportunity to interact with hundreds of students. Over the past several years I have had the opportunity to teach English 11 Honors classes. In these classes, a few students are truly exceptional.

There is always one student, however, that stands above all the rest in academics and drive. For me, this student is, Miss Oliwia Marcuk.

I first learned of Oliwia last year when she was a freshman. Already it was rumored around the school that there was an exceptional exchange student from Poland who was competing favorably with juniors. It was my expectation that, as an English Honors teacher, this exchange student would not be in any of my classes. However, in September of 1994, Oliwia Marcuk came to my class, as a sophomore, taking English 11 Honors.

It was not long before Oliwia made a major impression on me. It was not just that she excelled in class, but she would come to me on a weekly basis and request additional books to read in American Literature. On Monday morning she would arrive in my class early, her novel completed, and want to discuss in depth both the surface plot and the deep symbolic meaning as well. Oliwia read such authors as Steinbeck, Hemingway, Anaya, Ohara, Fitzgerald, and many more.

Perhaps the texts that appealed to her the most were To a God Unknown by Steinbeck and Bless Me Ultima by Anaya. Although I would be most reticent to recommend the former to any of my students, the deep symbolic and spiritual meanings of these two texts gave us much room for discussion.

Oliwia is a young lady who is driven to succeed and to

learn. No student is so capable of accomplishing a difficult analysis, nor so willing to step out and take a risk in her writing. Her writing is intensely creative and heavily symbolic. This is an accomplishment that stands out.

I hope that in some way I have captured the excellence and unique character of this emerging scholar. Her application to you, I am sure, reflects her advanced achievement in both academics and student involvement. Not only does she have perfect attendance, a 4.0 average, and has won numerous awards, she is also involved in many clubs, the band, civic organizations, sports, and community involvement.

At this point in my career as a teacher, there is no student that I could rank higher in academics and involvement. Miss Oliwia Marcuk is the epitome of what every teacher loves and hopes for.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

*Mr. John K. Bartke*  
Mr. John K. Bartke

Mentor Teacher