

Please accept this letter of recommendation in support of Carl Vellotti for admission to your institution. Carl is an exceptionally gifted boy who would be a wonderful asset to your program. I have known Carl for the last four years and, although I've always been aware of his keen intelligence, it has been a pleasure to watch him evolve into a self-assured, compassionate and wise young man.

I was introduced to Carl as the son of my daughter's chess teacher. Carl's father is a master chess teacher who runs a wonderful chess school here in Boise Idaho. He has provided the framework for my own daughter's development as a competent student of chess. Originally I'd observed Carl assisting his father during my daughter's weekly chess lessons. Eventually Carl developed into a superb chess teacher in his own right, working with my daughter and furthering her chess development as well.

As I'm sure you are aware from supporting documentation, Carl is also a talented chess player in his own right. However, unlike some successful chess "prodigies", Carl has worked very hard, in a disciplined manner to perfect his technique and play. This hard fought acquisition of his own skills has uniquely forged Carl into a sublime and informed chess instructor.

As a teacher of young people, I've observed Carl on many occasions instruct with intelligence, compassion and sensitivity to the temperaments and learning style of each individual student. Many times Carl's passion for the game has been imparted with humor and encouragement to teach difficult chess concepts to my daughter and other students. Carl has imaginatively used different teaching strategies such as logic, pattern recognition and story telling to convey abstract chess ideas into nuanced practical strategies. I get the sense that Carl draws from his own experience as a developing master of the game to teach students with a variety of tools, especially suited to each student's learning style. All along Carl's inherent humility makes his knowledge accessible to many different types of students all along the learning continuum.

In summation, Carl would be a great addition for your upcoming class. His diligence, sensitivity, wit, compassion and humility make Carl a highly desirable asset that will only enhance the strength of your program. Carl is not only an inspiration to younger students, but also a highly desirable candidate for a supportive team environment with the self-discipline and ardent intelligence for advanced study in whatever area he inevitably chooses to pursue.

Thank you for your time in considering Carl,
Sincerely,
Tony DeAngelis
10/17/12