



MAINE **inside out**

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To whom it may concern,

I recently had the pleasure of working with Myles Bullen as an artist in residence in one of Maine Inside Out's Summer 2016 Theater Workshops at Long Creek Youth Development Center, Maine's youth detention facility. Maine Inside Out initiates dialogue, develops leadership, and builds community across boundaries with collaborative original theater, inside and outside correctional facilities. We do this work by offering year-round theater workshops at Long Creek to all residents incarcerated as well as in three Maine towns that incarcerate the most youth: Greater Portland, Biddeford and Lewiston.

Maine Inside Out has been facilitating workshops in facilities and in communities since 2007, and has worked with hundreds of participants and countless community artists and facilitators. I have worked with the organization since the beginning and have also been in the field of "arts for social change" since 2003. I can confidently say that Myles stands out as one of the brightest, most authentic, and uniquely creative artists I have ever worked with.

It takes multi-faceted person to be an artist with a bold vision, to work within the structure of a correctional facility and with youth who have faced significant challenges. I was impressed by Myles' ability to be flexible and persistent through individual and group hurdles as well through logistical challenges during our camp.

Myles' skills of writing and performance, his dedication to group process and group work, and his commitment and ability to seeing the power in everyone's voice, makes him a standout group facilitator and artist. Myles deeply engaged with the group of young men in the workshop, as well, during our showcase performance, he caught the attention of Long Creek's Superintendent and other staff. He was noticed by all, adults and youth alike, as someone who has taken his personal experiences and used art as a tool for transformation. He was recognized as someone whose style and presence were inviting, engaging, and deeply meaningful.

Please feel free to contact me at maineinsideout@gmail.com if you have any further questions.

Best Regards,

Margot Fine, LCSW, Co-Director