## **Inland Empire Gymnastics Academy**

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To Whom It May Concern:

Wise beyond her years, rich in commitment, work ethic, compassion, integrity and kindness, Abby Willis is a young woman who will be a true asset to any college or university because she brings so much more "to the table" than academics and exceptional grades.

As the Women's Competitive Program Director at Inland Empire Gymnastics Academy, I have had the distinct pleasure of knowing Abby for over ten years, working side by side with her six days a week as her gymnastics coach. And what I have witnessed during this ten-year journey is the growth and development of an extraordinary young woman. While I am keenly aware of how incredibly hard Abby has worked these past three and a half years to balance the rigorous academic demands of her high school program and demanding training schedule of a Level 9 competitive gymnast, demonstrating on a regular basis her astonishing work ethnic and a remarkable level of commitment and dedication, what has impressed me even more about Abby is her quiet, thoughtful leadership and her kind and caring heart.

A confident, yet selfless leader, Abby has an innate ability to listen respectfully and with an open and honest heart, always considering the ramifications of her words and the impact they will have on others. She is thoughtful and intentional in her actions and choices; giving directions, suggestions and advice when needed, and stepping back when necessary to provide support and comfort or to allow others step forward to test their leadership skills. As the most senior member of our competitive gymnastics program, and someone with a crazy schedule, Abby is never aloof or inattentive to those around her, and always make time for others. Whether it's a teammate needing a word of encouragement, or the little girl across the gym staring at her in amazement, Abby is never too busy for a conversation, a high five or a word of praise.

Abby displays, on a daily basis, so many of the characteristics we hope to instill in the athletes we train – confidence, integrity, grit, discipline, commitment, and respect – and yet it is her humility, thoughtfulness and deep kindness that truly make her a beautiful person. Abby is, what I consider "the whole package" and incredibly worthy of your investment in her.

Respectfully.

Vicki Galeand, Women's Competitive Head Coach

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