



## ***Center for Technology - Essex***

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November 28, 2023

Dear Readers,

Jeremiah Batres is an extraordinary student and person. They were a member of my Integrated English class last year and were consistently impressive and a joy to work with. Integrated English is embedded into our Computer Animation/Web Design program at CTE and is designed to help students build the skills they will need to work in this profession.

The students in my class last year were very, very quiet and never wanted to participate in class discussions. Jeremiah, however, was one of a few students who always jumped in and often carried discussion for the class. I was grateful for the way they eagerly participated because of the way it helped other, quieter students consider a breadth of ideas. There were times, too, when the technology didn't work, and Jeremiah was always there to try to help get things going. In this way, they showed their maturity and confidence. They are comfortable with adults, eagerly participating in conversation. They are witty and wise for such a young person, and they are always eager to learn. When they finished their work, they always, always asked what else they could do. I found their demeanor especially impressive as we were just coming out of the pandemic. They were one of a few who seemed unscathed by all that isolation.

As an intellectual, Jeremiah is equally impressive. They love to dig into ideas and ask questions. They make connections that are always interesting. They were especially central to our discussions of George Orwell's *1984*, calling the book as a whole into question because of its sexual violence, which led to important discussions about the history of gender and gender roles. I always appreciate Jeremiah's questions because they lead the class to new ideas. I very much appreciate their confident questioning. It is always respectful and refreshing.

Jeremiah is also an excellent writer. They work hard to make their written work the best it can be, even though it always begins in excellence. From time to time, they would make appointments with me to go over the finer points of grammar, line by line, and they really seemed to enjoy those discussions.

All in all, I have nothing but high praise for Jeremiah—a true creative, in their art and in their writing, and in their way in the world. Jeremiah will be a tremendous asset to your school.

Sincerely,

Kerrin McCadden  
English Department