

Paris, June 12, 2012

Leadership Program Leader Recommendation  
Suncica Getter

Dear CTI Leadership,

Suncica Getter, a member of my Bat Tribe in 2008, has asked me to write a letter supporting her application to the Leadership Program Leader Auditions. What a pleasure it is to be able to sift back through my memories of our first meetings in Sitges five years ago, and to lay them against my impressions of Suncica today. Suncica was—and is today—one of the strongest, most articulate, and most grounded of the participants in our tribe. A humor type—fresh, playful, beautiful, coltish—Suncica is small and slender, but she is also deep and powerful. A student of literature, having received an MA in English from Belgrade University, she is a person of words, so when she opens her mouth everyone listens. Serbian by birth, she speaks absolutely perfect, evocative English with the slightest accent that adds both vulnerability and openness to her otherwise complete linguistic mastery of the English language (in which she also writes magnificent poetry). Thoughtful, right on the mark, her comments land with grace and accuracy, and command the attention of others. Suncica is tenacious too. When there is a struggle, she stays and fixes her blue-eyed gaze patiently right at the center of the trouble, speaking in that lovely, measured voice of hers and inviting others to meet her there and to work things all the way through.

Suncica Getter's purpose is to awaken aliveness, freedom and creativity through intimacy, a subject she explored in Leadership five years ago. Pairing up with a photographer, whose photos inspired her poems, she wrote an entire book of poetic meditations on intimacy in all its forms. From there, having gotten her start as a teacher and translator, she has moved on to coaching of individuals and groups, and has, of late, begun to bring together her interest in learning, language, growth, human interaction and education. Her engagement is with young people and she has already made three major commitments to bringing coaching and leadership their way. She has twice taught a coaching course at Singidunum University in Belgrade, Serbia where, as a guest lecturer, she's initiating students into theories of coaching and leadership, change management (via experiential learning), and life purpose. When she got sick this year, rather than fail her students, she immediately "recovered" and experimented with facilitation of the course by Skype—which, of course, by virtue of her force of personality, worked beautifully. She is thus already building young leaders in a university context. In addition, she answered my call when I ran, this year, a pilot leadership program for students at The American University, coming to Paris to help lead small groups of our students through exercises designed to identify their strengths as leaders and articulate their commitments to themselves. The feedback from the students has been so positive that we're envisioning a full-year program next year, which Suncica has already signed up to lead, along with other members of our tribe. Finally, Suncica

is also coaching for the Clore Leadership Program of the Foundation for Leadership in Arts, which recognizes young people who are either artists or working in the field of arts management.

When I think of Suncica, I often think of the description of Helena in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: "And though she be but little, she is fierce." Suncica is only in her mid-thirties, and is launching now what will be a significant career in leadership, but she has the strength, the fearlessness, and the capacity to mobilize language in the service of meaning of an accomplished, experienced leader. Some of this arises no doubt from her own country's relatively recent history and the way in which she has internalized it and understands it. Suncica's biggest impact on the world so far has been through her teaching of traditional coaches, coaching courses in a university environment, individual and team coaching, and her co-active leadership of ORSC classes for CRR Global. She has an exceptional capacity for making learning personally relevant, inspiring others, bringing out the potential in every individual in a course or class, analyzing and communicating impact, and translating from one register to another, and from one culture to another. I strongly support her candidacy to become a CTI Leadership Program leader.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'CSchenck', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Celeste Schenck  
President  
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