

#### Application Related Information

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Application:	Application Incomplete	Iteration Name:	202410_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MPA	Program Name:	MPA

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By:	Cynthia Kennedy	Recommenders Title:	
Recommenders Institution:	The Evergreen State College	Contact Name:	Mia Maizel
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	
Recommendation Form Submitted:	✓	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	02/09/2023 04:30 PM	Recommender Assessment:	I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	MPA Letter of Recommendation/Form
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000108985280	Recommendation Owner:	Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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How long have you known applicant:	Since May 2022	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:	Excellent - see my letter for examples
Time since last contact with applicant:	ongoing	Applicant as productive member of group:	Very good, although I have never worked with Mia in a group situation. She has good skills that would lend themselves to such a situation.
Relationship with Applicant:	faculty-student	Applicant most significant strengths:	Please see my letter.
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Very Good	Responsibility/reliability:	Outstanding
Communication Skills - Oral:	Excellent	Communication skills - written:	Outstanding
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Excellent	Ability to work independently:	Outstanding
Ability to handle stress:	Very Good	Ability to think critically:	Excellent
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Outstanding	Ability to think creatively:	Excellent
Openness to feedback:	Outstanding	Potential for leadership:	Excellent
Ability to work in a team:	Unable to Judge	Personal/professional reflection:	Excellent

#### Description Information

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Description:	Form URL:	<a href="https://evergreenstatecollege.radius.com/">https://evergreenstatecollege.radius.com/</a>
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#### Other Information

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Created Time: 01/23/2023 05:24 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 02/09/2023 04:30 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier



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February 10, 2023

The Evergreen State College  
MPA Program Graduate Admissions  
Olympia, WA 98505

Dear Graduate Admissions:

I am writing this letter to recommend that you admit Mia Maizel to your Master of Public Administration program. I have been on the faculty here at The Evergreen State College, where I teach leadership, for more than 20 years and have known Mia for less than one year, and yet, in that one year she has left a mark on me. She is wise beyond her years, and I give her very high marks in everything from cognitive abilities, to organization, to reliability. I support her application to your graduate program 100%.

I first met Mia last summer when she conducted interviews with a variety of faculty to discern which of us would be the best fit for the independent learning contract she was putting together. This should have been my first clue as to how completely engaged in her own learning Mia Maizel is. I was honored when she chose me to sponsor her contract and she quickly presented a rigorous, well-developed ILC for my review. I was impressed. This was probably one of the best-made ILCs I have ever reviewed in my 20+ years here. It had clear learning outcomes connected to her reading, critical response papers, and weekly meetings with me. Mia never deviated from her course but, in fact, went deeper than she had planned by supplementing her already rigorous course of study with additional material and investigations.

Learning with Mia was an absolute pleasure. I learned as much from her as her from me, which is what makes sponsoring independent learning contracts rewarding.

Since her contract ended last September, we have stayed in close contact. I am not surprised she is ready to enter graduate school as she is hungry to learn; your MPA program will offer her skills and a background that will allow her to move forward with her personal goals. From my perspective (and I have worked with hundreds of students over the years) Mia definitely has the skills necessary to continue succeeding in academic work. As a soon-to-be graduate of The Evergreen State College, she clearly exemplifies all of the Six Expectations for learning. As a part of that, I can highlight her capacity to conduct research, think critically, ask hard questions, write-well, engage in dialogue, resolve conflict, and work well with others. She is currently creating another contract with me, an SOS (Student Originated Studies) with several other students which will allow her to learn in her preferred manner: with other students longing to be challenged to

work hard and go deep. I am confident that as Mia continues her studies in graduate school her skills will flourish and get even stronger.

In sum, I think Mia an excellent candidate for the Master of Public Administration program. Don't let her youth fool you. She definitely embodies the values and skills for which I imagine you are searching including capacity for hard work, critical thinking, communication, and reliability. It is clear she has the maturity to succeed in situations where she will be required to stretch herself. In fact, she is craving these situations (and they have been lacking this last academic year for her as an undergraduate where she reports she is sometimes completely bored). You will not be disappointed to have her as a part of your next cohort.

Please accept Mia into your program.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Kennedy  
Member of the Faculty  
The Evergreen State College