

**Yellow Brick Road Learning Adventures
1104 East Main
Marion, Illinois 62959
618-997-6961**

February, 2009

Fellow Practitioner,

I am pleased to recommend Kathy Poelker to you as presenter for your trainings and workshops. Her area of expertise is music.

I was fortunate to hear Kathy give the Keynote Address at our local National Association for the Education of Young Children conference in October of last year. I was impressed with the content of her address in that she included the latest research in children's brain development and how music can greatly affect that development. Kathy also ties her music content to all academic areas of a preschool classroom, including math, science, social skills, and language and literacy.

I was so impressed by the information Kathy shared at the conference that I wanted to be sure all of my staff, including those who could not attend the conference, had the opportunity to attend one of Kathy's workshops. Another colleague and I asked Kathy to present a workshop for all of our staff in January of this year. We particularly wanted this training for the staff of our ISBE classrooms.

Kathy is very attentive in making sure she plans for the needs of those who contract for her services. She asked what we were specifically wanting included, both before the workshop and during it. She presented the information in various ways, through discussion and active learning, in accordance with adult learning theory. She also included handouts for participants to take the information with them and made some of her materials available for purchase if anyone chose to do so.

We were very pleased with the responses from our staff regarding the workshop effectiveness and have observed them using the information they gained in their classrooms. I believe our programs will have lasting benefits from having had Kathy's presentation.

Please feel free to contact me if you have other questions. I am confident you will be more than pleased with having Kathy as a presenter.

Sincerely,
Candy Lewis
Executive Director