

Sample of Support/Reference Letter for O-1 Petition - Alien of Extraordinary Ability in Arts

<The Date>

*USCIS Vermont Service Center
75 Lower Welden Street
St. Albans, VT 05479*

Re: I-129 Petition for Mr. Andrew Mayhan in classification as an O-1 Alien of Extraordinary Ability in Arts

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is written in support of Mr. Andrew Mayhan's petition for classification as an O-1 Alien of Extraordinary Ability in Arts. Mr. Andrew Mayhan is one of a few people with extraordinary ability in arts. I base that assertion on my understanding that extraordinary ability in the field of arts with distinction, which is defined as a high level of achievement in the field of arts.

I am an Art Director at Flynn Broadway Dance Company, and our company will employ Mr. Andrew Mayhan as a performer and dance coach for a period of three years. Mr. Andrew Mayhan's previous achievements and records in performance and dance has established that he satisfies the standard for classification as an alien with extraordinary ability in arts.

Mr. Andrew Mayhan is a 28-year old native and citizen of Australia, and he is an dance competitor and coach in competitive dance and dance education. He also has established himself as one of Australia's leading dance performers. Mr. Andrew Mayhan has performed and will perform as a lead participant in productions and events that have a distinguished reputation. He has participated in national and international dance competitions including a Second Place Award in the 5th Ballroom International Championships at Canada (2008), and a Third Place Award in 2009 International Latin Dance Competition at Japan.

Mr. Andrew Mayhan performed a starring participant in several events that have a distinguished reputation at Australia, for example, the World Championships of Australia which is the most privileged dance competition with distinguished international reputation, and Mr. Andrew Mayhan played a critical and leading role in those events.

Also, Mr. Andrew Mayhan has performed with Australia Pacific Dance Company as a principal dancer all over the globe including Hong Kong, Sweden, Germany, and Italy. Mr. Andrew Mayhan is the recipient of several significant national and international awards. He starred in the London production of "Kiss Me Kate", for which he was singled out by the critics for his excellent performance, and nominated for and received an Olivier Award.

Mr. Andrew Mayhan performed in the United States on two separate occasions at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. He also appeared on NBC's The Tonight Show with both Jay Leno and Johnny Carson. Mr. Andrew Mayhan was most recently featured in the critically acclaimed PASSION: Live at Lincoln Center which can be seen on PBS. He is also very proud to have shared the stage with Bernadette Peters at Carnegie Hall.

Mr. Andrew Mayhan has achieved national and international recognition for achievements evidenced by critical reviews and other published materials. Mr. Andrew Mayhan's extraordinary ability in dance and performance were reported widely by several news articles with national and international circulations, including New York Times, Washington Post, and several Australia national news papers.

Mr. Andrew Mayhan also coached and instructed many dance students. Two of Mr. Andrew Mayhan's students recently placed in the finals at the U.S. National Ballroom Championship. Mr. Andrew Mayhan's achievement in arts is sufficient to establish that Mr. Andrew Mayhan is a person of O-1 Extraordinary Ability caliber.

At Flynn Broadway Dance Company, Mr. Andrew Mayhan will continue perform as a lead participant in Broadway productions and events that have a distinguished reputation, such as "Gentleman Prefer Blondes" and "The Scarlet Pimpernel". Clearly, it will be a great advantage not only to our dance company, but also to the U.S. as a whole, if Mr. Andrew Mayhan is able to continue his career in United States. Recognition of his abilities in performance and dance has been established internationally, and he will continue to make significant contributions to the field.

I strongly support his application for status as an O-1 Alien of Extraordinary Ability in arts, and encourage you to approve it. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Pratt

*Art Director
Flynn Broadway Dance Company*

