

Drex Hathaway, Principal Richard Law, Counselor Jodi Beard-Secretary/Athletic Director Sara Moon, Attendance Secretary

January 29, 2016

Dear Idaho Commission on the Arts,

It pleases me to write this letter of recommendation for Dan and Kara Hidalgo, directors of the Idaho Art Lab located in St. Anthony, Idaho. I am writing in support of their plans to expand and create additional artistic opportunities for the residents of Fremont County, Idaho.

Dan and Kara are both accomplished artists who are committed to bringing the joy of art to people in our area. I enjoy spending time with Dan and Kara, as they are interesting, creative people whose passion for art is refreshing and contagious. Given the rural nature of our communities in Southeastern Idaho, we have not had access to the artistic opportunities that their workshops provide. I am particularly excited about the comprehensive scope of their projects, as they are designed to encourage artistic expression in the lives of people of all ages.

By utilizing buildings that were previously vacant, the Idaho Art Lab, under the able direction of Dan and Kara Hidalgo, is currently providing opportunities for all forms of artistic expression. The Idaho Art Lab is truly one of the most exciting things to ever happen to our community. Together, Dan and Kara possess an incredibly wide ranch of artistic talent, from photography to custom one-of-a-kind furniture pieces, from traditional media to making paper from buffalo dung! It has long been my belief that people from all walks of life possess undiscovered artistic talent, talent that could help each of us lead more colorful, complete lives. I believe that the therapeutic benefits of artistic expression help enrich the lives of people in our area, and I believe that Dan and Kara are uniquely poised to provide that opportunity.

I would encourage you to review their proposal carefully, as they have invested a great deal of time and talent in designing an innovative, comprehensive program that would benefit people of all ages. Please take the time to get to know Dan and Kara and allow them to demonstrate the exciting things they are currently doing for our community. And with your help, they will continue this important work!

Sincerely,

Richard James Law

North Fremont High School, School Counselor

(I also served for ten years as a City Councilman for the city of Saint Anthony, Idaho)