## Washington Union High School 6041 South Elm Avenue • Fresno, CA 93706-6099 • (559) 485-8805 • FAX (559) 485-4435

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To Whom It May Concern,

February 18, 2016

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Glen Freeman Director Alternative Education It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Gaonou Vang. I met Gaonou her freshman year when she was a student in my English 9 class, and I have been fortunate enough to have her again this year in Scientific Writing classes. When I first met Gaonou, I was impressed by work ethic and dedication to her studies. She strives for excellence in school, and she is never satisfied with her grade or course work unless she knows that she put everything she had into the assignment, test, activity or essay. Having Gaonou as a student has been an honor for me, for she is dedicated to her education and her future.

Gaonou lives in rural Fresno, to a large Hmong family. Her family has faced struggles when she was young, forcing her mother became the sole provider of her family. Because of the hard work of her mom, she is dedicated to be the first in her family to attend and graduate college. Over the years, I have able to see her dedication to her studies and her knowledge grow to produce the amazing young woman she is today. She pushed herself to be successful no matter what, always asking questions for clarification or to challenge her own thinking. She has pushed herself through her years at Washington Union by taking several rigorous courses including: AP Biology, AP Environmental, AP Language and Composition, and AP Calculus and English 10 Honors. When Gaonou graduates in June, she will be prepared for her future because of her dedication to her studies.

Gaonou plans to attend university next year and pursue a degree in biology to pursue a career in the medical field. As evident by her 3.88 GPA and the rigorous courses she has taken during her high school career, I truly believe she can succeed in her education and whatever her future holds. Gaonou has been a part the Link Crew program for the past two years, President of Asian Club, and Secretary of Math Club the last two years. She is also a part of the Health Institute at Washington Union, and, through that program she has gained valuable, hands on experience working at Community Regional Medical Center. In her free time, she is also apart of a Hmong dancing group, and has helped with the ASB Leadership program since her freshman year during Homecoming seasons.

Gaonou is an incredibly hard working student and is dedicated to education and to her future. She faces all challenges that come her way, which makes her uniquely prepared for her future. She is a trustworthy young woman who shares her passionate personality and inquisitive brain to inspire and challenge those around her. I have faith that she will effect change and promote positivity in the community as well in society as a whole. If you have any questions about Gaonou, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ashley Butler

English and Social Science Teacher, Washington Union High School

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