

70 Fifth Avenue, Rm 1216 New York, NY 10011
t 212.229.8903 f 212.229.5357
www.mediaudies.newschoo.edu

Department of Media Studies and Film

The Scholarships and Student Finance Office
University of Edinburgh - Old College
South Bridge
Edinburgh EH8 9YL
Scotland UK

May 15, 2007

To the Members of the Scholarships Selection Committee:

It is a pleasure to write in support of Teale Failla's candidacy for a financial aid scholarship at The University of Edinburgh; I recommend her with confidence. Teale studied film production with me in the fall of 2003 while working on her MA at The New School. Over the past few years, I've gotten to know Teale as a filmmaker, a colleague, and a part of a community.

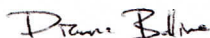
The 16mm Sync-Sound Film Production class at the New School is notoriously one of the most demanding courses in the department. Students are required to write, plan, and shoot their own 10-15 minute sync-sound film project while simultaneously crewing on their classmates' films. Despite these demands, Teale completed all work on schedule and in a positive, professional manner. I learned that she is a mature, balanced person who takes responsibility for her work and incorporates feedback readily. While she was clearly focused on her own film, Teale still had energy to be one of the most active members of the class. On her classmates' films, she was a knowledgeable, supportive crew member.

The editing for the sync-sound class happens in the following semester, and unfortunately many students don't finish their films. Teale not only persevered to finish her film, "Open," but she organized multiple screenings in the city outside of the traditional channels, seeking to expand the possibilities for her audience. "Open" is a warm, intelligent look at lesbian relationships and sexuality, a solid accomplishment for a first sync-sound film.

Last year, Teale was promoted to Night Manager at the New School's film production office, a position in which she oversees a small staff, and provides technical and logistical support to the department's many classes. Once again, I have found Teale to be focused, reliable, and very capable.

I strongly recommend Teale Failla for your scholarship. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dianne Bellino