



May 1995

To whom it may concern:

It is a great pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Ms. Francesca Cardone as a pianist and as a teacher of piano. I have known Ms. Cardone over a period of three years now at Southern Methodist University where she has completed an Artist Certificate and a Master of Music in Piano Performance. During the 1994-95 academic year, I have had the opportunity to supervise and observe her teaching of private piano lessons in the Division of Music at SMU.

Ms. Cardone's excellence as a pianist is clearly and thoroughly documented elsewhere. I would add my own observation that she is a pianist of brilliance and sensitivity with the musical and technical resources to embark upon a career as solo artist and teacher.

As a teacher, she has demonstrated the ability to successfully reach a wide variety of student levels and abilities. She is personable, warm, and flexible. She exhibits genuine caring for the success of her students and instills respect and admiration in return on their part. She was able to inspire and guide her students to a high level of performance in juried examinations. As her experience in teaching grows, I predict that Ms. Cardone will become an outstanding teacher and that she will have an important career as a piano pedagogue.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel S. Holland  
Assistant Professor of Music  
Head of Piano Pedagogy  
Director, Piano Preparatory Department