

Young Musicians Program

July 16, 2013

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I am writing in support of Babá Ken Okulolo. Mr. Okulolo has taught for the Young Musicians Program (YMP), an honors outreach program of the University of California, Berkeley, since the summer of 2005. He is one of the most outstanding teachers I have ever encountered in my 30-year association with YMP.

Mr. Okulolo served as our private African Drum instructor and ensemble director. During our seven-week summer session, he taught 2-3 classes of African drum ensemble each year. At least one class would be made up of students who had never experience this type of music. Without fail, each class produced an outstanding ensemble. Each student was engaged, excited to be part of the class and proud to perform. Mr. Okulolo always met each group's abilities because he would write pieces to highlight each student's strengths. At performances, he would always engage the audience and ask them to participate by singing along and clapping. Almost every performance resulted in a standing ovation.

As a person, Mr. Okulolo is soft spoken, gentle and a man of great integrity. He is very easy to work with and was always willing to make adjustments in schedules to accommodate the programs ever changing demands. I highly recommend for any educational endeavor.

Sincerely,



Karen Baccaro
Assistant Director

