

December 10th, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a returning student interested in a career that involves graphic design and web-related skills and especially the technical skills required to work with the Adobe Suite of creative tools.

The ability to affordably take Design Technology classes at SMC, where I've learned to use Adobe Illustrator and In-Design (Photoshop next semester!), has opened the door to incalculable opportunities for me, both creatively and vocationally.

If not for SMC, I would not have been able to obtain these skills.

A four-year degree focused on graphic design for media, web development, user interaction, and related areas, could lead many students to successful careers in a job market that is seeking workers with this kind of expertise. This represents a currently unavailable opportunity for students who would otherwise face an uphill battle in obtaining employment and developing lifelong career skills.

I have been very impressed with the high quality of the existing Design Technology classes at SMC, the expertise of the teaching staff, affordable tuition and the diverse and inclusive student body in their graphic design and technology related classes, (ie ethnicity, race, age and disabilities). Access to cutting edge software and hardware at the SMC computer lab, which is staffed by experts who provide hands-on assistance to students, significantly fosters the success of students.

Between the teachers I've had and the computer lab staff at SMC, I felt totally supported and have had a successful experience learning the Adobe Suite skills that have helped me expand my work options. I am writing this letter because I (and others), could not have accessed these skills without SMC's current Design Technology classes and a four-year degree in this subject would be a real game-changer for so many students.

Offering a four-year program in Design Technology would be a very timely and important contribution to our community and the future careers of students from all walks of life.

Sincerely,



Portia Iversen
Los Angeles, CA