

## **Letters of Recommendation for Jean Zarzour - Theater Directors**

Jean Zarzour has asked me to write a letter of recommendation for which it is a pleasure to do. I directed and choreographed Jean in a production of *Tuning In* for the University of Akron. Jean is simply a delight. Imaginative and resourceful, Jean possesses a wide scope in character roles. She brought solid choices to rehearsals and polished them into a performance with depth and excellent comic timing. Jean was a favorite with audiences. You will find Jean highly personable, funny and a warm human being. I recommend her to you.

Sincerely yours,

George Pinney  
Professor and Head of Musical Theatre  
Department of Theatre, Drama and Contemporary Dance  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, Indiana 47405  
**812-855-0839 (Emmy winner and Tony Nominee for *BLAST*, Broadway)**

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I am happy to write a few words to recommend Jean Zarzour for your consideration.

I worked with Jean in 2013 on a large scale new musical, produced under a special AEA/LORT-style agreement in the Cleveland area.

Jean has many wonderful qualities, but as someone who has worked with many comediennes over the years, I was quickly drawn to her sense of humor. Not only is she naturally funny, but she can translate her humor into well timed comedy onstage. This is a rare combination.

The entire cast enjoyed working with Jean, who sang well, handled all the revisions easily and enjoyed great success with her featured role (3 songs and several scenes).

In addition, I would add that Jean is a responsible lady with a great spirit, and she would represent any casting director well. As a former Broadway conductor, I realize the importance of that. I would also point out her extensive background in voice-over work, creating hundreds of characters and voices in all styles.

Please consider Jean; she would be a terrific asset.

Sincerely,

Terry LaBolt, Music Director  
Department of Theatre, Drama and Contemporary Dance  
**Indiana University**  
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Bloomington, IN 47405-1101  
[tlabolt@indiana.edu](mailto:tlabolt@indiana.edu)

**Conductor/Music Director Broadway - 42nd Street, Hello, Dolly! (with Carol Channing), George M. (with Joel Grey), and Sugar Babies (with Ann Miller and Mickey Rooney). Co-author of The Wonder Years: The Musical, Off-Broadway and in Los Angeles. Keyboard for The Fantasticks (original Off-Broadway production) and touring shows of The Phantom of the Opera, Evita, Aida and most currently Mamma Mia.**

I'm very happy to put in a good word for Jean Zarzour. I performed in a production with her, directed by George Pinney/Tony Nominee & Emmy winner, with musical direction by Terry LaBolt, in August 2013. Jean was terrific....funny, creative, smart and the audience loved her! She almost made me forget my bad wig! *All Best, Pamela Myers (Original Marta in Company 1972, Tony Nominee, Best Actress in a Musical)*

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Jean has been a wonderful presence in everything I've seen her do; very funny, of course, but also very moving and believable when material called for it. What I'll never forget though is how she came in when we needed an understudy and didn't have one, and performed in our production of The Clean House with one day of rehearsal. What a pro!

*Seth Gordon, Associate Artistic Director, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis*  
[sgordon@repstl.org](mailto:sgordon@repstl.org)  
*Formerly, Associate Artistic Director, The Cleveland Play House*

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This letter is to recommend the work of Jean Zarzour, and actress with whom I have performed, and who I have also directed.

Jean's work is intelligent, instinctive, and warm. Her range is wide, encompassing broad comedy to drama, and her characterizations are detailed and truthful. She is a joyful and willing collaborator.

Jean is also an enterprising individual with a keen business sense and a pragmatic approach to work. She is also passionate and conscientious, and commits herself generously and completely to any project she undertakes.

I urge any potential employer to consider her seriously.

*Scott Plate, Department Chair, Music Theatre - Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music*  
[scottplate@gmail.com](mailto:scottplate@gmail.com)

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Jean is an actress of great dimension, able to play dramatic as well as comic roles. I directed her in a reading of "Solomon's Blade" for the Cleveland JCC and her work was excellent. She was also very collaborative and fun.

*Fred Sternfeld, SSDC, Artistic Director at Fairmount Performing Arts Conservatory*  
[fsternfeld@gmail.com](mailto:fsternfeld@gmail.com)

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Jean Zarzour is a wonderful actress. I met her in 2009 during the rehearsals for my play "Pangs of The Messiah" in the JCC in Cleveland. She did wonderful work on the character. She was very powerful, very deep, very moving and very humorous. I found her very collaborative and very inspirational.

She's surely a treasure in any production.

*Motti Lerner, Playwright - 5 Massada St. Ramat Hasharon 47290 Israel*  
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