

September 7, 2004

To Whom It May Concern,


Maria Medina was awarded a stipend as a *Kulturmittlerin* (cultural liaison) from the Goethe-Institut New York to attend an intensive eight-week language course at the Goethe-Institut Mannheim (Germany) from December 2, 2002 to February 1, 2003.

Kulturmittler stipends are awarded by the Goethe-Institut in the US and Canada to both advanced students and professionals in the arts, where the knowledge of German plays an important role. Part of Ms. Medina's application included an essay on why she should receive a Goethe-Institut stipend. Her work with *What Is Art?* along with her desire to further her German knowledge and her spirit were reason enough to award her a stipend for the eight-week course.

Her evaluation from the Goethe-Institut Mannheim stated Ms. Medina received an assessment of "gut" (good) in her involvement in the classroom as well as oral and written proficiency. However, learning a language is a life long commitment, and we feel Ms. Medina will commit to further her German mastery.

Therefore, it is my opinion that any professional and creative cooperation Ms. Medina can maintain and further with any German or German-speaking partners can only embellish her work in the arts.

Sincerely,



Jon Gilbert Leavitt
Language Program Officer

