

# Letter of Recommendation

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Dear Journalist of the Year Committee,

I have worked alongside Grace Lovejoy for nearly the past three years, and one word best describes her character: passionate. Before I joined the *Trail* staff, Lovejoy was already serving as Features Editor on the editorial board. She was the first staff member ever to receive a Best of SNO—School Newspapers Online’s selective national award—setting a new standard of excellence for the *Trail* staff.

Her love of journalism drives both her ambition and her proficiency. When she comes up with a new story idea, she wastes no time turning it into action. Recently, she coordinated with another student’s schedule to produce a personalized, day-in-the-life video of a student influencer. Within a few weeks, she completed the project and presented a step-by-step guide to video-production for the rest of the staff. This kind of initiative and dedication is typical of her work.

In addition to her skill and efficiency, Lovejoy is exceptionally organized. She has created multiple planning documents to help the staff stay on track, and when we lost access to our project management app, she quickly built a spreadsheet that seamlessly replaced it. She has also curated a plan that clearly outlined the steps required to help the *Trail* become a SNO Distinguished Site, and it was successful in helping the *Trail* reach its goals. She is a planner through and through, keeping the team on a clear path forward.

Perhaps most importantly, Lovejoy is a team player who shares her passion for journalism with others. While fully capable on her own, Lovejoy understands and utilizes the diverse talents of her team to maintain the *Trail*’s reputation for high-quality reporting. When someone on staff wins an award or produces something that took a lot of time and effort, she is sure to celebrate that staffer in a way that is enthusiastic and fully acknowledges their effort. When a staffer needs her help, she ensures that they receive the assistance they need, never seeing it as a burden. She leads not by dominating, but by fostering collaboration and empowering her colleagues.

Lovejoy brings a quiet, steady passion to the newsroom, and her dedication to journalism has been evident in every project she tackles. For these reasons, I wholeheartedly recommend Grace Lovejoy for Journalist of the Year.

Regards,

*Nyla Kerr*

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