

Northwestern College, Iowa

NWCommons

Reflections from Colleagues and Students

Documents

4-17-1974

Mary Lynn Sikkema Bogaard Letter

Mary Lynn Sikkema Bogaard

Follow this and additional works at: <https://nwcommons.nwciowa.edu/theorareflections>

April 17, 1974

Dear Dr. England,

You've been a person who has had a great influence on my life, not only because of what you've taught us in the classroom but because of what you've taught us about life. As I think back over the years, you're about the only one I could think of to give "The Teacher of the Year" award to. All of your classes were enjoyable, and it seems like we learned something new each time we were in your class. The various approaches you used of course made them all interesting. I think of Beginning Acting and those fun times in Children's Theatre with such fond memories. They didn't seem like a class because they were so enjoyable. It was never a chore to go to one of your drama classes. I looked forward to them. Every text book we ever used for you I have saved and will always save.

The Choral Reading tours, the plays, the workshops, the Interp Festivals, the Alpha Psi meetings and Quintilians were all a big part of my life. They all meant so much mainly because of the work you did for them. You inspired us to work for them too. All the work was always worth it because it taught us how to take the ups and downs of life. How can we ever forget so many of the things that happened with our old drama gang?

Thank you for the privilege of working with you for three years on the Awards Committee too. I learned a lot doing that too. All of the plays are enjoyable, and there's always so much to learn in each one.

Stanislawski's book The Method has so much to say to us theatre students. In paging through it I noticed all the things I had underlined -- "Create your own method." "Love the art in yourself rather than yourself in the art." "The theatre infects the audience with its noble ecstasy." "In general is the enemy of art." "You are learning how to live - not merely to exist."

Because of you, dear Dr. England, I have this storehouse of quotes and knowledge. Because you gave part of your life to me, I'll always be indebted to you! Thank you for everything you've done for me.

Best wishes to you always!

My Love, Mary Lynn Sikkema Boquard