

March 22, 2012

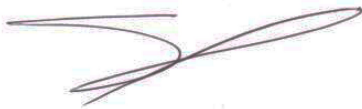
Dear Elliott,

I'm writing to thank you for bringing "A Finished Heart" to the University of New England community. We've received tremendously positive feedback from the students, faculty, staff and community members that attended. It is not often that such personal work reverberates with the experiences of so many. You managed to beautifully yet authentically convey the complexities of love and loss in a multi-layered story told from the perspectives of both the dying person and his husband. In many respects the performance was courageous; it spoke frankly of death and also intimately of committed love between married men who expected but did not get to live out their dreams. I should add that the musical score eloquently performed by Martin Perry, and composed by you, was a brilliant accompaniment to the performance.

I hope you will come back to campus to perform "A Finished Heart" for our College of Medicine students and to classrooms where End-of-life content is taught. I believe that the earlier health professions students are exposed to first person stories of loss, the more likely that they will be able to translate these into more compassionate practice attitudes and skills.

Thank you again for such a wonderful performance. I'm happy to offer recommendations to others interested in bringing "A Finished Heart" to their venues.

Gratefully,



Shelley Cohen Konrad, PhD

Director, Interprofessional Education Collaborative

Associate Professor School of Social Work