



# Sharon High School

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Jose Libano, Principal  
Elizabeth Gavin, Assistant Principal  
Jennifer Graveline, Special Education Administrator

Robert Pomer, Dean of Academic Affairs  
Nicholas Schlierf, Athletic Director

October 26, 2018

Dear Admissions Officer:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Raga Chilakamarri, a candidate for admission to your school. Raga was an outstanding reader and writer in my English III Honors class—an advanced junior American Literature survey course.

Raga was a pleasure to have in class. On a daily basis, she embraced literature with passion, and she enlivened our classroom community with her enthusiasm. Her positive energy was contagious: she inspired her peers with her analytical expertise and her willingness to connect emotionally to the reading. She was a frequent and confident voice in class discussion, contributing her sophisticated opinions and insightful ideas frequently and with pleasure and pride. In addition, Raga was a kind and constructive editor during peer editing, and her classmates often sought out her advice on organization, editing and analysis.

Raga’s strongest abilities include her analytical reading and writing skills. Rather than seeing essay writing as a dreadful and boring chore, Raga relished such challenges and was always eager and enthusiastic to begin an essay assignment by talking with me about her ideas and fashioning a complex thesis statement. Her essay on *The Great Gatsby* was truly exemplary as she crafted an in-depth analysis of Fitzgerald’s depiction of masculinity in Jay Gatsby and Tom Buchanan. I must mention her final essay of the year, a research-based literary project wherein Raga conducted an in-depth study of Lawrence Ferlinghetti; she analyzed his poetry, researched his biography, and read a variety of literary analyses of his works. The paper and project she produced were outstanding. This project truly revealed Raga’s abilities to synthesize multiple texts into clear, precise prose, analyze literature with sophistication, and edit with meticulous and thoughtful attention. As a result of her exemplary skills, I have recommended her to serve as a tutor in our high school writing center, and she has, with her usual enthusiasm, graciously taken on this additional role.

In addition to her excellent expository writing skills, Raga also excels in more creative assignments. Her short stories, poems and projects all showcase her ability to think “out of the box” and bring originality and creativity to any task. For example, in one particular collaborative project, she was a key contributor in designing a modern school that embraced the doctrines of the Transcendentalist thinkers. Raga brought her own insightful, creative and scholarly ideas to her peers, and her group’s school proffered a website, architectural design, a course of studies, and a student handbook – and all of these elements highlighted the dimensions of Thoreau and Emerson’s principles. It was very well done, and I will use it as a model for my current students.

Elsewhere in her application materials, you will see that Raga is a leader and participant in a myriad of activities both inside and outside Sharon High School. I have no doubt that Raga will succeed in any endeavor she chooses to pursue, and I am happy to recommend her with enthusiasm and without reservation. She is bound for many great successes.

Sincerely,

Lori Novick-Carson  
English Teacher

## Vision, Mission, and Core Values

Sharon High School strives to be a respectful, caring, dynamic, and inspirational learning community. We offer our students the academic, civic, and social tools to be informed, thoughtful, and effective contributors to a globally connected world.

**Perseverance ~ Responsibility ~ Integrity ~ Dedication ~ Excellence**

*Sharon Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, homelessness, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.*

