

School of Education

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Dear Kimberly:

I want to thank you for your wonderful performances in Wolfville and at Acadia University last week. It was a real pleasure having you visit our community and our university. It was also a pleasure for me to work with three of my colleagues to make this happen: Dr. Phyllis Rippeyoung, Coordinator of Women's and Gender Studies at Acadia, Dr. Mervyn Horgan, Department of Sociology, and Dr. Anne Quéma, Department of English and Theatre.

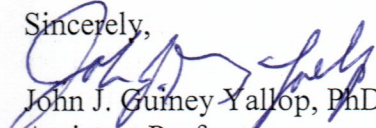
Your performance at Acadia Cinema's Al Whittle Theatre on Monday, October 19 was given to an almost full house. The voluntary contribution at the door raised about \$500.00 for the WOW (Women Of Wolfville) charities. Thank-you for your generosity and for providing us with an opportunity for university and community collaboration. Many Acadia University students attended your performance on Monday evening. A most striking comment made in one of my classes the following week was that your performance created conversations that will last for years to come.

The two performances you gave on campus on Tuesday also well received. The performance in the Acadia University Art Gallery was attended by three sociology classes, as well as other students; some students from the Monday performance also attended. Your explanation of autoethnography was particularly useful. The performance in Seminary House, where most of the classes for the School of Education take place, created a space for an engaged and engaging conversation with administrators, including our president, Mr. Ray Ivany, with faculty, and with students. Following the conversation your work was described as "provocative and inviting – a difficult combination to make happen."

I particularly enjoyed the many opportunities for conversation with you, Kimberly, and our discussions of possible future writing together. Once Dr. Sean Wiebe, from the University of Prince Edward Island, and I have an opportunity to put together our book proposal we will be forwarding you a request for a chapter. As well, because both you and I use poetic inquiry and autoethnography in our work, and because much of our work addresses diversity/equity issues, I want to continue to think seriously about the suggestion by Dr. Anne Quéma that we work on a book together to further explore the poetic and the performative in activism and in research.

Once again, Kimberly, thank-you for bringing us your insightful and inspiring performances.

Sincerely,


John J. Gurney Yallop, PhD
Assistant Professor