

Dear Peter,

It's hard to believe that already almost six months have gone by since Molly experienced her first **beginnings** workshop in June. We have had ample time since then to reflect on this experience from both a participant's and a parent's point of view, and can recommend it to others considering the venture, without reservation.


Our 12-year-old daughter Molly has been involved in acting since she was 7. The prospect of spending ten days immersed in all aspects of her primary interest was most inviting. The immediate appeal to me as a parent was the obvious attention of the workshop given to supervision. Molly had never spent more than a weekend away from home, and that was with relatives. We were comforted by the strict provisions laid out in the Agreement, as they were so obviously geared to the safety of each individual child. I must admit, it was difficult to accept not being able to communicate with her, other than by letter, during this time. But given the magnitude of the workshop, each day scheduled almost down to the minute, I could understand why this provision was considered necessary. Upon our reunion with Molly after the impressive showcase, we were reaffirmed in our decision to let her go.

While Molly did indeed learn quite a bit from her teachers and acting coach (not to mention you, Peter!), she was most impressed by the friendships she made with kids her age from all over the country. She couldn't wait to write to seven or eight of them as soon as we returned home to relive her experience at **beginnings** and to continue her relationships with her new-found friends. Nothing about the workshop was disappointing. Every detail of our expectations, from the quaint lodgings in the mountains to the feedback from the casting directors, was fulfilled. Above all, our feelings that Molly would be well-cared for were confirmed.

As you know, we took your advice and Molly spent almost six weeks of the summer following the workshop in New York. The two of us really enjoyed our time together for three of those weeks and would have been satisfied for that adventure alone. The fact that she actually did a national commercial after you introduced her to her manager was beyond our hopes and expectations. She was able to float back down to earth (Richmond) in time for school with all kinds of healthy new confidence. She has signed on to a local talent agency and looks forward to working with them. We have you to thank for opening these doors for Molly.

I would be more than happy to speak on your behalf to any parent of a child considering **beginnings**.

Sincerely,



Jan Beilhart

Virginia