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March 5, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Jazz Hands For Autism, I am delighted to express our strong support for the Academies for Social Entrepreneurship (ASE) at UCLA. Our organization had the privilege of participating in the Spring 2021 semester, where we worked closely with a talented group of UCLA students. They were instrumental in helping us identify and build out a social enterprise within Jazz Hands For Autism. The collaboration proved to be both enriching and transformative, providing us with fresh insights and strategies that were critical in launching the Jazz Hands Junior Academy. Additionally, we participated in the pitch competition, where our efforts were recognized, and we were ultimately awarded a loan that significantly contributed to the successful launch of the Academy.

The ASE program facilitated a dynamic environment of learning, collaboration, and creative problem-solving. The students' dedication and innovative thinking, combined with the guidance and support provided by ASE mentors, were invaluable in advancing our mission. The experience also fostered a stronger sense of community and connection with our stakeholders, enhancing our capacity to further our goals in supporting individuals on the autism spectrum.

We highly recommend ASE to other organizations seeking to explore social enterprise models to drive social change and impact. The program not only equips organizations with practical tools and strategies, but also provides an excellent platform for growth, idea generation, and collaboration. We look forward to continued engagement with ASE and are confident that future partnerships will yield similar success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ifunanya Nweke, Ed.D.

Founder & Executive Director Jazz Hands For Autism