

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

3rd April 2021

Referee letter for Jerusha Mather in support of her nomination for the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

I am a paediatrician at the Royal Children's Hospital, a Clinician-Scientist-Fellow at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, and an Honorary Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics. I was Jerusha Mather's mentor for the 2020 L'Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Mentoring Program. It is my pleasure to support Jerusha's nomination for the Victorian Women's Honour Roll.

Jerusha has made an enormous contribution to change-making and activism for people with disabilities. She is the first coloured female with cerebral palsy to do a PhD in the medical sciences in Australia. She is an outstanding role model for women particularly those with disabilities. She is also a leading advocate for medical students with disabilities. Through her advocacy, she has influenced changes in policy to make medical education and employment more inclusive and accessible. Because of her trailblazing continued efforts, she was recognised as a STEM change-maker by the Australian Academy of Sciences and had the opportunity to share her views with top scientists and leaders in the country.

She is a motivational speaker and has spoken to many companies including World Vision, Future Female, Remarkable, and Micah about her impactful story, insights, and experiences. She has empowered so many people with her unique voice and story.

She recently started a petition for accessible packaging. Her petition received many signatures and brought about much awareness and innovation within the community.

She has worked with World Vision before as a National Co-Editor advocating for greater funding for those living in poverty.

She will be one of the first women in the medical sciences to be viewed as a portrait Questacon.

She is also finalist for the Bridge Change Award.

She is an extraordinary person doing amazing things and deserves honour.

Thank you for considering her for the Victorian Women's Honour Roll.

Yours sincerely,



A/Prof Valerie Sung

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