

I ... have the pleasure of being in Prof. Katz's ... class. She is by far one at my favourite professors; her lectures are informative and yet uniquely offbeat, and always have what I like to call the Leslie touch. She is passionate in recounting her personal experiences and lessons in the theatre, and also gives wonderful insight into what experts in the field have to say. I find her lectures well organized and logical, and always trust the depth of her knowledge. Her students adore her, and coming to her class is always a pleasure. She absolutely gives it her all, and I find listening to her enthralling. Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I hope many more students in the future are able to benefit from Professor Katz's teaching as I have.

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I hope it is not too late for my comments to be useful; I will keep them brief. I just wanted to say that ... I feel I am definitely getting the most from the subject through the teaching of Professor Katz. Classes are always informative, but more importantly, I think, they are interesting and intellectually stimulating. I am never at a risk of falling asleep or becoming disinterested or confused. She presents the plays with a life and dramatic sensibility that keeps the material fresh and never thins.

I hope these comments are helpful in your decisions.

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... I would like to express my opinion of her teaching so that it will be passed on to the review board.

Leslie's classes are continually interesting. I personally find them engaging because Leslie herself is so intelligent and asks that her students consider, for themselves, how the material being worked on impacts on them. I am always happy to have a teacher who requires that one thinks for oneself; and Leslie is certainly of that type. She encourages not only the understanding of material, but the importance of one's own interpretations. She is also a receptive woman who is happy to talk to her students, this accessibility must not go unnoted—that she is so receptive to her students' concerns, and their own personal interests, makes us feel that we have a relevant take on material that might otherwise be daunting.

There is no question in my mind that Leslie should continue to be employed at the University of Toronto. She is well-liked, intelligent, interested and interesting, and encouraging, her classes have been a pleasure to take, and I plan on taking more from her in the years to come.

I am a ... student in the University College Drama Program. ... I had the pleasure of having Leslie Katz as my professor for the first semester .... With complete sincerity I can say that Prof Katz is unlike any other prof I have had at UofT, she is in fact what I hoped and imagined professors would be like before I began my university career. She displays a contagious passion for the content of the course, and for the platform to teach. She is down to earth, and approachable- and does not need to present a dominant or arrogant persona to control and engage a classroom (as has been my experience with many professors). Rather, Prof Katz simply comes to class, as herself prepared to speak to us, listen to us, and respond to us as people something that is rare and extremely refreshing.

Beyond this she approached a course which could very easily tend toward the stuffy side, with an air of creativity. She provided opportunities for students to experience the content of discuss with an active hands-on approach, that was both enlightening and entertaining. The essay topics and test questions she compiled were actually thought provoking they did not require the student to simply regurgitate, but allowed the chance to formulate, and exploit opinions of our own.

Finally, in regards to one on one interaction, she was, by far, the most approachable and helpful professor my experience has exposed me to. She was also responsive in regards to after class discussion, email correspondence, and during her office hours; Thither, her responsive nature went above and beyond the bare minimum, she was always prepared to discuss class content beyond the lecture, to sit down and truly consider and converse about essay material, and happy to provide advice about all matters related or not.

My experience, and I am sure, those experiences you will receive recounted by many of her students was an oasis in a harsh and intimidating university. Leslie Katz is a talented and devoted professor, and a real asset to the university faculty.

I hope my comments were insightful and helpful.

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I ... would like to take this opportunity to recognize Leslie's success as a Professor at the University of Toronto.

Prof. Katz speaks so passionately and intelligibly about the course material that it would be difficult, in my mind, for anyone to tune out. She is incredibly engaging as she never fails to surprise the class with insightful connections, allowing the students to have a greater understanding of plays with regards to context and style. She relates the material to theatre today with a very unique approach, keeping me curious and excited to attend every lecture. Her love of theatre and her enthusiasm are apparent in her willingness to speak with all of the students and listen to our thoughts, both during lecture time and outside of class. In my opinion she is a wonderful Professor and is a great asset to the University of Toronto.

Thank—you for including the students in this decision,

- A passionate theatre student

This is in response to your request for student comment on Professor Leslie Katz (as part of the tenure evaluation process).

I had a very positive experience as a student in Prof. Katz's dramaturgy seminar ... for several reasons. The course content was clear and well-designed and included varied and motivating assignments. Second, I found Prof. Katz to be an engaging and thought-provoking lecturer, with a gift for stimulating and galvanizing student participation. .... Finally, I found Prof. Katz's critical feedback to be always useful and enlightening, and helped me a great deal in developing my own academic writing style.

In closing, I consider myself fortunate to have had the chance to study with Prof. Katz; and I am particularly grateful to be able to offer this feedback as I could not attend the final seminar the during which (I assume) student evaluations were conducted for that course.

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When I applied to the DRAMA CENTRE for the first time, I was advised to take extra courses in order to be accepted.

One of the courses was Leslie Rat's fourth-year undergraduate course on Dramaturgy. I know it isn't a graduate Course, but it was thanks to this course, along with Trojanowska's Theatre and Film in Extremis, that I definitely wanted to make part of the Drama Centre. As I am right now. professor Katz is one of the Centre's most interesting teachers. In a single lecture she brings to the table Ibsen, John Cage and paintings from the 15th century. She is resourceful and has a particular view of Drama which is enriching and absolutely necessary.

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I would like to contribute to Leslie Katz' tenure evaluation with respect to my contact with her in two regards.

First, as regards her teaching of the obligatory, core dramaturgy course, I found her approach(es) to be stimulating, imaginative, and unusual in the variety of ways she approached the broad and difficult topic of playwriting and play-making. She made the course into a multifaceted exploration of the ways, means, and functions of the approaches of many writers, from classical through post—modern to contemporary Canadian and American writers no mean feat, given the potential for a dry, theoretical approach.

... she was the first to grasp my ideas and to marshal them into a semblance of order, objectives, and possible outcomes. This was achieved in the most casual and comfortable of circumstances, borrowing time from her schedule to share thoughts ..., while maintaining a strong focus.

My only regret in my contacts with Leslie has been the infrequency of our encounters.

In brief, I heartily endorse Ms Katz' application for tenure.

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Here is a letter of support for Professor Leslie Katz's tenure.

I attended Professor Katz's dramaturgy course which had an original program insisting on unreserved participation of all students, both through in class discussions on crucial issues of dramaturgy and through practical individual assignments in existing theatre productions and written contributions to the on-line journal.

Professor Katz has always encouraged students to think independently, while insisting on supporting or confronting examples from contemporary theatre theory and practice (especially from performance arts), which she knows thoroughly.

... I was amazed how many French and African sources she consulted ... and how deeply I had to dig through them to find anything new and useful to her.

... I had a precious, and for many students rare opportunity to be involved in important current issues of theatre theory and practice,

I think that Professor Leslie Katz's tenure will help many students to find their ways to sense, think, understand, and create theatre.

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I wanted to comment, hoping that my comments would be taken in a positive light (because of course what • s a good sign in one paradigm is not necessarily good in another).

- \* ... Professor Katz, who not only listened but engaged in a wonderful series of discussions with me afterwards concerning ... (the subject of the paper).
  - \* ... she's always totally approachable.
  - \* I find that at colloquia she asks the most wonderful questions, sensing depths in places I didn't think to look.
  - \* She is one of the most refreshing women intellectuals in the humanities that I've met in a long time. WHY? because feminism hardly ever rears its head in her presence. While it's an important issue for some women—and i want to be respectful of those who care deeply about feminism--I sense that Professor Katz never needed to use an ism to further her career or to advance anyone's education. Her teaching and conversation is wonderfully free of dogma or rigid patterns of thinking. Sometimes her questions are very challenging precisely because she is thinking, composing ideas on the fly, NOT resorting to the staid and tired set—pieces that some people truck out. I truly love watching her think on the fly as she's speaking.
  - \* And need I add, that she seems extraordinarily bright? those insights i spoke of, when they're offered, have a fresh quality that invigorates every discussion.
  - \* She has on several occasions pushed the envelope in what she's attempted: ..... And her melding of FOOT with the dramaturgy class is still reverberating through the Drama Centre. I have heard people talk about that in some respect (for instance, the discussions I am part of, as a co--AD of FOOT this year) or other(speaking about dramaturgy at least twice since September to another DC student) several times. And please note, I am in many respects out of the loop ....
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Hello,

... and I think that Professor Katz is extremely fair, helpful and insightful in her lectures. She is enthusiastic about the class and the material. She answers inquiries through e-mail promptly as well. I also think the class outline is fair and the questions asked on the quizzes and test to date have been challenging but fair. The scene study idea is great! it is a good way to have fun and learn a lot at the same time. When it was my turn to do a scene study she was helpful in finding the proper materials to use as props. It would have been hard to do so for our group without spending a lot of money because we are all in residence. We explained this to her and next class she brought the materials necessary! She is a great professor and makes me enjoy getting up early three times a week. thanks for your time.

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Professor Katz is amazing. One the best professors I've ever had. The qualities I like about her class the most are:

Personal one-to-one style with questions and information.

Structure of the course work; clearly the materials have been carefully and thoughtfully selected to make work as enjoyable and accessible as possible.

Lectures are presented with interest and she is evidently interested in the materials that are covered.

Truly one of the best professors I've had.

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In response to your e-mail concerning Prof. Leslie Katz, I can give my personal perspective as a student in her course ... Prof. Katz has been one of my excellent contacts at the DC.

Despite having assigned a considerable amount of readings, she never resorted to authority and yet managed to elicit class participation even from the most reserved students. Her irony is an effective strategy to make us relate the subject at issue to our self—knowledge (even if I am not sure if she is aware of the ancient maxim "Know thyself").

In Prof. Katz's course I learned a little bit more about American theatre, started to know something about Canadian drama, and had the chance to understand better why I am here and what I can do in order to make the most of my stay. If this is not a good reason to support her work, I ignore more appropriate parameters.

avail myself of this e-mail to wish you good holidays and ask you when your course is beginning.

I am more than pleased to bear positive witness to Leslie's skills as a drama professor. She knows her history cold, she is personable and very giving in terms of extra assistance or help. She has made herself much more available to each student than would any other prof with two TAs. As a student with ten years theatre performance experience I am awed at what I have and will continue to learn from her. She has introduced me to several new plays and styles and her enthusiasm transfers to her students. ... To be frank, this program and this university will benefit greatly by having Ms Katz teaching for many years to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion.

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It is absolutely my pleasure to be writing this letter in support of Professor Leslie Katz. ... student in the University College Drama Program. I had the pleasure of being in Professor Katz's Drama ...

To tell you in a letter about my learning experience in Professor Katz's lectures is rather difficult, partly due to the fact that her classes are so much more than lectures. The material that she chose has proven to be so useful in other classes that I am taking but it is the way in which she presents the information that makes her stand apart for other professors I have had. Her way of instructing us made us learn and question and absorb the material without simply memorizing dates and plot lines. Her lectures were a forum for discovery, discussions and explorations. Professor Katz encouraged us as part of the class to perform practically what we were being taught and thus she made each student a crucial part of his or her own learning process.

In addition to this, Professor Katz is an incredible advocate for the arts in Toronto and at the University of Toronto. With care for the interests of her students, we always were informed about theatre happenings across Toronto. Many of my Mends and I were performing in various shows at U of T and sitting in the audience, sure enough was Professor Katz. As a class at the following lecture, she would take time to discuss the play and encourage others to attend the shows.

Professor Katz is an intelligent, wonderful professor who gives strength and crucial knowledge to students studying theatre. Her class was so important to me and I thank you for this opportunity to express my gratitude for the class and Professor Leslie Katz.

Thank you for your time,

Leslie Katz is a wonderful professor. Her lectures convey relevancy, interest, and true love of the subject so effortlessly. She maintains a very solid connection with her audience and is consistently aware of our interest factor. This connection breeds creativity in her lectures very naturally and, as students, we are able to understand the information in relation to theatre as a whole immediately. This creativity and artisticness that Leslie Katz incorporates to her lectures brings a personal element to the way we process each lesson. For example, when we learn of the Dionysian principles, the material feels relevant to us as human beings as much as it did to the people of Greece long ago. Her lectures involve the students like good stories. With every class, it is evident that she is expressing her love of the lesson and its relation to theatre. Also, her help with scene studies is very commendable. She is more than willing to offer insight in every aspect of the production as well as her labour with props and technical demands. It is truly a great pleasure to attend her lectures and learn theatre from her point of view.

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Leslie Katz made an immediate impression on me as a student. Her lectures are always interesting, and informative. She consistently uses course texts to elaborate on broader themes within the structures of the course, and she routinely encourages her students to go beyond the text and class time, becoming involved in extra-curricular viewings of productions in the community, as audience members. She is especially supportive of the University College Drama Program, informing us of shows being produced, and the necessary steps to follow should the UCDDP become of interest for a student.

Professor Katz also is quite insistent upon the realization of the plays we have studied. Her use of multimedia enables to better understand the ideas she conveys in lecture, and reinforces themes and concepts previously discussed. She uses videos as an excellent tool to expand our knowledge. Of particular note, she ensures that every student participates in the performance and technical production of 'scene studies' from the plays we study in lecture. These ensure not only that students understand the text, but that they gain first-hand experience in creating works from the page to the performance venue.

Professor Katz has done a tremendous job this year, and is always available for her students, through office hours and emails. Overall, she has helped to make my experience at the University of Toronto a memorable one.

I sincerely hope that this helps in your evaluation,

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I absolutely adore her! she dazzles each lecture with her hilariously quirky nature and delivers each topic with sincerity and eloquence.

this class has made an impact on me that would have otherwise been impossible had it not been for Leslie's guidance. she is deeply engaging, humble, intelligent, wonderfully eccentric, compassionate, erudite, mysterious, remarkably perceptive, elegant, and unforgettable.

Leslie is an inspiring person and an incredible professor.

I am a ... student at U of T. ... my favourite class was DRM 100, taught by Leslie Katz. I understand she is under review and I would like to express my support and admiration for her.

She was a wonderful teacher who brought the plays we read to life. Not only did Professor Katz provide historical background, she also discussed the theatrical elements and presentational styles of each plays. she drew parallels between plays and characters and demonstrated the continuity of themes throughout an eclectic collection of plays. In addition her emphasis on scene studies allowed students to experience the plays first-hand.

Professor Katz takes an interest of all her students, despite the large class size. She always has time to talk to students outside of class and her passion for theatre is contagious. on a personal and professional level, she is the best professor I've had to date. She has so much knowledge to share and attending her lectures is always a pleasures despite the early morning!

Thank you very much for your consideration.

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I am an undergraduate student in the UC drama program an have been taught by Prof. Katz ... I can honestly say that Katz has been one of the most important influences throughout my university schooling, and continues to be someone I highly respect.

Katz possesses a strange quality that enables certain students to discover aspects of themselves through the material she is teaching. For me, one important aspects of university is mentors hip, and Katz ~5 one of the finest. Her gentle and encouraging ways have enable me, and many other students who were in my class, to go beyond oneself and make valuable discoveries, sometimes shocking and unexpected, but always rewarding. Now this might sound rather abstract, but then Katz herself exists in an ambiguity that can not so easily be deconstructed. All I can say is that she has been and will continue to be a tremendous asset to the university, and for the number of years she has contributed to the minds of many UofT students, the university should not hesitate to award her with tenure.

I would be pleased to answer any further questions if need be.

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... I just wanted you to know that I think Professor Katz is an incredible teacher; the enthusiasm and spark she brings to the classroom is remarkable. She is approachable and engaging and seems to be very passionate about the course material. I, like many others in the class, have been enjoying her Lectures thoroughly and find them to be very informative and thought provoking. I think she really deserves to be given tenure. Thank you for your time,



I currently have Prof. Katz for Drama ... and I personally feel that she is one of the best professors I have. I had a wonderful teacher in highschool for drama who prepared us for the future as much as she could and taught us how drama truly should be taught. She showed what theatre can be and I think Leslie is helping me along in the exact same way. She really brings me into the lectures and has brought me beyond the basics and how to act to a new and broader perspective on theatre. She is allowing me to see, through what we study and the scene studies, how I can contribute to the field and truly giving me a great background to do so~ I feel she is wonderful professor and is most likely the only teacher I could have had that would continue my education in drama properly and cultivate my love for drama.

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... I find her to be an excellent teacher. Her lectures are informative, interesting, and entertaining, with frequent connection to historical, philosophical, and -literary relevance. The format of her classes makes them enjoyable to attend, and the frequent quizzes give good understanding of what she looks for from students and makes sure everyone keeps up to date with the work (unlike other classes where students can fall too far behind on their readings until it's impossible to catch up).

Also she's always willing to give up extra time to help students with studying and analysis of the course material.

Overall Leslie katz is a treasure to the school, and I hope the school and students are lucky to keep her for as long as they can.

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... I can say without question that she is the best university teacher I have had.

She is a pleasure to talk to and always makes herself available to her students. Her lectures are not boring (like many of my other classes). I feel she has a passion for the importance of drama in life and she inspires me to do better as an actor. The class is structured well, and the dynamic discussions in class do well to cover the required material.

As it is clear that she loves what she does, it is not hard to understand why she is such a wonderful person and teacher. If you have any questions feel free to e-mail me.

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