May 17, 2004

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my distinct pleasure to write in enthusiastic support for my friend and colleague, John Gardner. I was privileged to work with John for five years as he served as director of our clarinet program at Huntington College and was principal clarinet in our Wind Ensemble and Orchestra. Professor Gardner is a consummate professional who is a considerate and supportive colleague, an outstanding performer, a diligent researcher, and a very popular teacher. He consistently received the highest student evaluations for applied clarinet lessons and his work as woodwind sectional instructor for our ensembles. His applied students improved greatly after beginning study with him. He is described as being patient but strict, demanding but kind, inspiring by exemplary personal performance and work ethic.

John Gardner contributes greatly to the campus and community of Huntington in his willingness to share his gift of playing, arranging and composing in many college, church, and civic arenas. John embodies a sensitive and lyrical style in his playing, extremely expressive while maintaining musical accuracy and technical facility. It is truly a joy to hear him play and, as his reputation grows, he will find it increasingly difficult to schedule recitals and concerts for every request. He is equally gifted as a woodwind doubler and regularly plays saxophones for community functions. He is absolutely committed to furthering his music education and is organizing his life accordingly.

Please feel free to contact me at (219)359-4266 or jfulbright@huntington.edu if you require any further information. Thank you for your consideration of this deserving and talented musician, pedagogue, and devout Christian. John Gardner will certainly be an asset to any university faculty, graduate program, church music program or professional ensemble.

Sincerely,

Dr. Janice Fulbright, Chair
Huntington College Music Department