



Testimonial and Reference Request Form

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form!

Name: **Melissa Browning**

Date: September 15, 2008

School your child attends: 8th grader at Sierra Vista Middle School and 11th grader at Northwood High School

Testimonial

My name is Melissa Browning and I highly recommend Bridges Reading and Writing Institute. I have two sons who have taken classes at Bridges because I felt that their written expression was not up to par with their reading and oral language ability. As a teacher, I know how important it is to have a solid foundation in written expression and at Bridges, that's just what you'll get. I knew that Bridges' philosophy and class objectives were right on track for what I was looking for, which was not simply tutoring, but a deeper understanding of the English language and tools for expressing oneself in writing. But, it's one thing to have a great presentation for beginning parents (as they do), and it's another to follow through and create an atmosphere that carries out that philosophy.

Both my sons were less than enthusiastic about starting at Bridges, however, after the first session I never heard another complaint. The small group supportive atmosphere and skilled teachers are just the recipe that one needs for academic growth. What's really amazing is that I have seen my sons apply the skills learned at Bridges to their written assignments in school. I nearly cried when I heard my youngest say, as he was completing a school assignment, "I'm just not happy with my word choice in my second paragraph topic sentence." This is a kid whose goal, prior to his time at Bridges, was to complete each writing assignment using the fewest words possible! My oldest son, as a Junior, is now approaching the writing portion on the SAT and college application essays. I feel confident that we are giving him the best possible support by having him attend classes at Bridges.

If you are looking for a place that only helps your child do their Language Arts homework, Bridges is not for you. Bridges is an institute that has strategies in place to give your children a deeper understanding of vocabulary, reading comprehension and writing skills that they will use throughout their lives.