

**August 9, 2011**

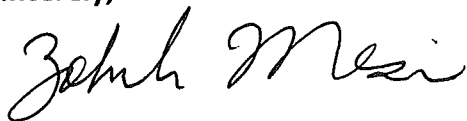
**Manna's Martial Arts,**

**As I walked my seven year old daughter Sahar into your studio at the age of seven, I had no idea that I would be writing this letter eleven years later. That summer she asked me to sign her up for martial arts classes. I had no experience with martial arts and did not know any studios. I looked up some studios and went to them. They were all closed. Your door was the only one that was open so I walked in and my daughter's life changed from that day on.**

**I am speaking as a proud parent who's 18 year old is about to embark on another important chapter in her life. In two weeks she will be leaving for UC Berkeley. This is a bitter-sweet time for me. I am happy for her and sad for myself. And I am also sad that she will not have Manna's in her life on a regular basis anymore. I know you have invited her to come back when she is visiting, but it will never be the same for her. You all have been a second family to her. She has thrived and grown under your care and instructions. She has become a disciplined, responsible and caring person. She has developed unbelievable work ethics that have helped her excel in whatever she does. A lot of that has to do with the discipline of martial arts and the leadership classes she was involved in at Manna's. On many occasions she has quoted Grandmaster Manna. His wisdom and life experience have helped her make the right decisions in life. The fact that she never wanted to miss a class and spent as much time as she could at the studio showed me how important you all are in her life. I am proud to see her picture amongst all the black belts that have gone through your studio. It is with a great sense of pride that I tell everyone that my daughter is a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt.**

**In conclusion I wanted to thank you all for nurturing Sahar and helping her become the person that she is.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zohreh Mesri". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Zohreh Mesri**