

To Whom It May Concern,

Let me hasten to say at the outset of this correspondence that my recommendation of Karson Kennedy for The National Alumni Scholarship is both unequivocal and enthusiastic. Having known Karson for a number of years, my perspective is that his determination, willingness to undertake challenges, and proclivity to leadership roles has not gone unnoticed, and has, in fact, been fundamental to his distinction as a well-rounded, phenomenal young man.

Karson has demonstrated an esteeming commitment to the respect and betterment of those in school and in the community. A dedicated and honor roll student, Karson has established diligence in his academics and a desire to continuously learn and achieve. As a member of the Central Catholic football team, Karson has illustrated his mature level of discipline and dedication to teamwork. Additionally, Karson's participation in leadership programs, such as the University of Pittsburgh's INVESTING NOW program, Black Male Leadership Development Institute (BMLDI) and the Black Student Union, demonstrates his commitment to service and being a positive student voice.

I recommend Karson not only as someone who takes seriously the nurturing and application of his education in ways that impact the development of the whole person, but more pertinently, as someone who is clear about the critical importance of integrity in a respective sense. More personally, I have witnessed the exceptional contributions that Karson has made to the INVESTING NOW community. Through his interactions with others and respectful demeanor, it is clear that Karson has dedicated himself to enriching the lives of others around him. Accordingly, I can tell you that our program has benefited from the byproduct of his heart and mind in a real and residual way. Karson's passion about learning and yearning to create transformative experiences has been fundamental in his participation in the program.

Karson is a kind, intelligent, and strong person who has a clear sense of direction and determination. I am confident that he will bring the same warmth, support, insight, and hard work to the greater community in any environment that he finds himself. If I can be of additional assistance, please feel free to contact me at (412) 624-0225 or via email at <u>ala173@pitt.edu</u>.

Sincerely,

alype alexand

Alyse Alexander, M.Ed. Program Coordinator University of Pittsburgh Swanson School of Engineering INVESTING NOW program