To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of Lei Wang for the 2023 Outstanding TA Award. Lei was my IDE 401 professor during the Fall 2020 Semester. This was my third IDE class that I have taken, being that I took IDE 201 and IDE 301 during previous semesters. This class has always taught me about new ways of introducing technology into instruction, however, this semester in IDE 401 with Lei was by far the most engaging and impactful class thus far.

Through this uncertain time of online learning, Lei was able to create an interactive and collaborative class every single time. We only had two sessions in person, and during those classes every single class activity was carefully designed and planned to make the most of the time we had together. Each instructional activity and facilitated discussion introduced me to new digital tools and new ideas about technology integration that ultimately developed my understanding as a whole and changed my perspective as a future teacher using technology in my classroom. This truly unmatched learning experience continued into our online classes as well.

Lei would make short instructional videos before we started each unit to make sure that all students were given clear expectations and detailed instructions that ensured that we were supported every step of the way. Additionally, the classes and units were so perfectly organized and sequenced so that our learning and growth could continue. One thing I especially appreciated about Lei’s teaching was that she gave me the opportunity, whether through an assignment or through a discussion, to reflect on and analyze my progress and learning in the class, which was extremely beneficial to my growth as a future teacher.

Outside of class, Lei always answered her emails right away if I, or anyone else, had any questions. It is this devotion to her students’ success and her passion for teaching that, in my eyes, makes her the perfect candidate to receive this award. I will carry my knowledge from this experience through the rest of my life.

Sincerely,

Jordan Walz

Syracuse University, Class of 2021

School of Education

Inclusive Elementary and Special Education