



TUCSON BOTANICAL GARDENS

2025

To whom it may concern

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend Joe Benedict, a truly gifted steel artist and creative collaborator. During his time working with the Tucson Botanical Gardens, Joe brought an extraordinary blend of artistry, vision, and professionalism to every project he touched.

Joe has a rare ability to take even the roughest sketch—often scribbled on the back of a napkin—and transform it into a breathtaking, fully realized public exhibit. His imagination and craftsmanship turned abstract ideas into engaging, tangible experiences that delighted visitors and seamlessly integrated with the Gardens' natural beauty.

Beyond his artistic talent, Joe was an absolute joy to work with. He engaged openly and respectfully with our entire team and was consistently thoughtful, reliable, and solution-oriented. His interactions with the public were just as impressive: warm, approachable, and always enthusiastic. He had a way of making everyone feel connected to the creative process, which enhanced the impact of his work and left a lasting impression on our community.

Any organization or community lucky enough to work with Joe will benefit from his creativity, professionalism, and heart. We cannot recommend him highly enough.

Sincerely,

  
Michelle Conklin

President/CEO