



To whom it may concern

I am pleased to recommend Landon in a wide range of capacities; he is a creative, interdisciplinary thinker who brings depth, originality, and intellectual agility to everything he takes on.

I have known Landon since August 2020 as a student in our interdisciplinary honors program. Throughout the time that I have known and worked with Landon, he has demonstrated an intellectual dexterity that allowed him to seamlessly shift and combine disciplinary lenses while discussing topics related to humanity, technology, art, and our relationships with our surroundings and each other. He spoke as a burgeoning engineer, a humanist with a keen understanding of the importance of the sciences, and a creative artist with a poetic mind set to express our humanity. This sort of mental fluidity stood out in our classes and I often observed that there would be a distinct shift in the quality of our discussion when Landon contributed or asked a question. Other students seemed inspired to engage on a higher level by his inquiries and responses. This same interdisciplinarity was also expressed in Landon's written communications. His papers explored difficult concepts and did not shy away from complex questions and he would offer creative approaches to our assignments. He would, for example, combine psychological and sociological lenses to explore how we use humor to reach collective understandings of the Self and the Other. His research was significant in its breadth and depth and his use of sources indicated that he had not merely skimmed an article or read the preface to a book, but that he had read and thought about them extensively before integrating them into his work. The arguments that he wrote were compelling and often left me with much to think about. Landon's success within and beyond challenging STEM classes speaks volumes about his academic capabilities. However, his success in my classes showcases a mental dexterity and interdisciplinary flexibility that allowed him to stand out amongst other students.

Landon is intrinsically motivated and regularly sought out ways to be successful above and beyond receiving a high grade. Outside of the time in our classes, I have also shared many conversations with him which were, perhaps, even more representative of his capabilities and character. Landon was regularly stretching his mind beyond the education that he was receiving in his classes and the conversations that he was having with his peers and friends. He would visit my office to discuss intriguing topics and challenging concepts. He would share epistemological, existential, and deeply philosophical questions that he was contemplating and searching for their answers. One significant example of this pursuit was Landon's practicum—an independent "capstone-style" project that all students complete in our program. His project involved extensive research into Jungian archetypes and their implications for the human condition. He combined his work into a performance that combined song, narrative and A.I. generated art. The performance was deeply introspective and provocative in the ways that Landon connected his personal experience with a larger collective experience, and vice versa. Not only did his project involve an immense workload beyond the practicum requirements (Landon taught himself how to sing, how to use multiple AI programs, and how to conduct a one-man, multidimensional performance), but he had to





maintain a focused determination when others did not understand his ideas. The result was an expression of humanity layered with wisdom and imagination. It was one of the most creatively impactful projects that I have ever seen a student produce and it was at this moment that I realized that Landon is a creative visionary.

This same sort of creativity and intrinsic pursuit was expressed in a TED-style talk that Landon presented on the Spiral Dynamics of Consciousness. Although this topic may have academic heft, his treatment of it was engaging, compelling, and entertaining. During this event, Landon demonstrated his ability to teach others with ease and joy.

In each of these instances, Landon's work impressed other students and faculty alike. I heard several students comment on how they were inspired by his work and creative vision. In these ways, Landon is a leader who carves out new and courageous paths through his work that inspires others to emulate him. While I have highlighted a few moments of his individual exceptionalism, Landon also seems to find inspiration that comes from working with others to see significant ways that he can direct his energy and ambition.

Due to his vision, drive, and creative force, I see that Landon will inevitably be a leader and creative changemaker. Involving him in an environment where his development is guided towards purposeful and important work will position him to make positive impacts on our world. I am happy to speak further on his behalf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Brandt".

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