

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Tomas Fairbairn since he came to our school as a new student. As a professor in sculpture/installation, I have watched him grow as both an artist and a person. He was a passionate and engaged first-year student, and he remained so throughout his career at Ontario University of Art and Design, pursuing his degree with diligence and focus while serving on the Student Union Board, and on many other university committees.

In our third year here at UAD, we have a pre-thesis assignment which allows students to explore what it is they will do for a culminating experience. I was Tomas's advisor that year and he absolutely stunned me and the other advisors with his proposal to do an interactive piece which had the viewer actually entering a sculpture of a one-roomed shack. There would be a bench along one wall which allowed for three people to enter the structure at a time. Once inside, all the lights would be doused and the participants would be left in complete blackness. This would last about three minutes. As the three minutes lapsed, the walls would become screens on which would be back-projected scenes from the 1930s depression era, and a hot, dry wind would be wafted through the small cabin interior. As the film faded to darkness again, another short interval of silence would take place before participants exited the structure.

When the piece was finally executed for the final year thesis, viewers came out of there shaking their heads. It was, some said, if not a life-changing, at least a mind-changing experience.

Tomas has worked hard to hone his creative identity and his skill sets to execute his vision. His work has become more focused, while at the same time, more complex over the few short years he has been with us. What he needs now is the kind of exposure which he will get in Savanna College of Art and Design's (SCAD) sculpture and installation MFA program.

I have spoken with Dr. Jones in the sculpture department at SCAD, and shown him some pieces by Tomas. Professor Jones was enthusiastic about receiving Tomas's application and portfolio.

Please give Tomas's application serious consideration. My recommendation comes without reservation. He will be an asset to the program there, and it is an excellent fit for both parties.

Do not hesitate to contact me directly should you wish further information.

Sincerely,

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As the Dean of Mansom College, at CSU, Northridge, I have had the pleasure of knowing Sharon Tomisso for the last four years. She has been a tremendous student and an asset to our school. I would like to take this opportunity to recommend Hannah for your graduate program.

I feel confident that she will continue to succeed in her studies. Hannah is a dedicated student and thus far her grades have been exemplary. In class, she has proven to be a take-charge person who is able to successfully develop plans and implement them.

Susan has also assisted us in our admissions office. She has successfully demonstrated leadership ability by counseling new and prospective students. Her advice has been a great help to these students, many of whom have taken time to share their comments with me regarding her pleasant and encouraging attitude.

It is for these reasons that I offer high recommendations for Susan without reservation. Her drive and abilities will truly be an asset to your establishment. If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me.