

Jeff Bartell

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Promotions & Tenure Committee

MassArt
621 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

To the esteemed Promotions & Tenure Committee at Mass Art,

My name is Jeff Bartell and I am writing on behalf of my friend and former colleague, Fish McGill, who I would wholeheartedly recommend for any and all advanced faculty tenured positions at the *Massachusetts College of Art & Design*.

I have been lucky to be involved with Fish in many different capacities over the past 12 years—as a graduate school classmate, artistic collaborator, and more recently working alongside him as a fellow educator and colleague at *MassArt*—in both the undergraduate and graduate programs of the *Communication Design* department. In addition, Fish is someone with whom I am honored to share one of the best friendships of my lifetime. Within this myriad of contexts, I can say without hesitation, that he brings an uncommon grace, passion, and kindness to every role he steps into.

I first met Fish as a classmate in the *Dynamic Media Institute* grad program and was immediately drawn to his deep knowledge of design and his welcoming spirit. His willingness to collaborate made him an ideal artistic partner for myself and other fellow students. Fish and I co-created a number of large scale mural projects and gallery shows together—such as DMI’s annual *Fresh Media* exhibition—and I’ll say his adroit drawing, painting, planning, and production skills are unmatched. Moreover, he brings a lifetime’s worth of incredible craft and care to every creative endeavor he touches. Fish shows up with his entire self to collaborations of every kind.

Furthermore, Fish has been an invaluable teaching mentor to me ever since I began my educator career as an adjunct professor at *MassArt* in 2020. His sage advice—which he gave readily and plentifully that first year—ensured my success as a new instructor at both the undergraduate level and when I began helping out with the DMI program. Fish selflessly demonstrated his penchant for informed pedagogy and ability to bring great empathy for students, without sacrificing discernment or rigor. These traits make him an ideal leader in education and I have done everything I can to embody them in my own toolkit as a professor. Simply put, I would not be the educator I am today without Fish’s erudite guidance.

In summary, Fish McGill has made me a better designer, better artist, and better design educator and for that, I am beyond grateful. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if there is need for further expansion upon anything I have stated here, as I will be more than happy to continue commending this outstanding man's poise and adroit vision for education. My belief is that Fish lifts up the people around him, and I hope you will consider how he can further serve the community of *MassArt* in a tenured position.

With warmest regards,

Jeff Bartell

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