

The Art Institute of New York City®

CREATIVITY *for* LIFE

January 1, 2015

To whom it may concern:

I am writing a letter of recommendation for an extraordinarily talented artist/educator, Miguel Martinez. Before I get into the details of Miguel's qualifications, I would characterize Miguel's desirability as a candidate thus: put your pencil or mouse down and hire him right now.

You simply won't get a better art educator than Miguel Martinez.


In my 22+ years of work in higher education in a management role, I would place Miguel in the handful of top educators that I have worked with out of hundreds and hundreds of design/art/film faculty.

Miguel's characteristics as an educator are many but I will focus on a few:

- 1) Miguel brings his relevant real world experience into the classroom. Miguel is a very active artist. He has been exhibiting in New York and beyond for decades. As a result, he has contemporary relevant experience that is useful to students in their studies as aspiring artist. Miguel connects students to the cultural, artist praxis of the contemporary art world in a direct and meaningful way.
- 2) Miguel translates that experience extremely effectively. In my years, I have had the occasion to hire and work with Print Design, Academy Award and Emmy winners, and virtually none of them or countless others, communicates as effectively as Miguel does. As a colleague of Miguel's once said, "He's a force of nature, in the best way possible." Miguel's students have often complimented him on his professionalism, laser focus and clarity of expectations. At The Art Institute, Miguel works with students in their foundation studies who often have a nebulous idea of what it means to be a designer and artist. Miguel draws that vague sense forward as effectively as anyone I have ever seen, largely through his passion for his art, and the ability of art to connect to the larger sense of a person's world.
- 3) Miguel is an extraordinary team player. I first met Miguel in 2005 when he joined the Faculty of the college at the same time that I began as the academic dean. Miguel has consistently participated in the life of the campus in a number of ways; first and foremost, his work as a classroom pedagog is superior, he contributes to the campus by supporting a variety of activities and art shows the college has put forth, he participates in assessment activities, departmental activities and anything else that is asked of him; he works with struggling students by tutoring them outside of the classroom, and always providing meaningful input on helping the college improve its effectiveness. If someone needs help, Miguel provides it.

Again, don't miss the opportunity to hire Miguel; your students and institution will benefit enormously from his contributions to your college. Please contact me if you have further questions.

Yours,


David Moughalian
VP/Dean of Academic Affairs