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Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing to give you an introduction to and strong recommendation of Gregory Charles, as a facilitator, lecturer, and consultant extraordinaire. I have known Gregory since August of 2008 when he contacted me seemingly "out of the blue." It seems we both work with college age adults in a university town where word gets around, and he took it upon himself to make sure we got to know each other. That began a professional partnership and friendship that has been of immeasurable value.

I realized Gregory could be a valuable and unique classroom resource with his extensive training in seminar facilitation and his impressive cross-cultural knowledge and perspectives gained from his own study and travels living in Australia, the United States, and Bali over the years. This knowledge and insight is refined through an exceptionally high level of self-reflexivity that gives his perspective and opinions a power that opens up new ways of seeing the world for those who interact with him. Gregory has spoken in my classes at the university on a variety of topics. In these highly interactive presentations, he delves into deep conversations with my upper division courses of 25-50 students and engages in lively question and answer sessions with an introductory class of 450 mostly freshmen students. He ranges from thoughtful to entertaining to provocative all in the appropriate amounts and with perfect timing to leave the students buzzing with new ideas and perspectives, questions, conversations, and actions to take on beyond the classroom. His intention is always to leave every conversation, intimate or formal, small or large, with everyone engaged, alive, and seeing with greater clarity the world and their lives and place in it. This is what he brings to groups as a presenter and serves him as a facilitator as well.

I know that Gregory has developed and facilitated seminars and workshops designed to improve relationships, enhance personal growth, and empower individuals in their everyday lives. In these settings he uses humor, directness, wisdom, gentle support, and encouragement to guide participants toward their declared goals. In these settings traumatic life events are shared and healed, fears are brought to surface and faced, and old beliefs are often challenged. Gregory leads participants through this potential emotional minefield with grace, compassion, and a ruthless determination that sees dramatic positive transformations result. I have never met anyone who participated in one of his events that did not have numerous stories to tell of the improvements they saw and made in their lives and relationships as a result.

Given that Gregory has developed workshops and presentations on topics ranging from US politics and culture in global perspective to college relationship pitfalls to personal empowerment, he is well suited to consult when developing courses or presentations in any number of areas. What he primarily provides in these instances is inspiration and a commitment to not settling. He is reliable to remind you what could be done if everyone played at their top game, and he will consistently hold true to that, keep up his share, and support everyone involved to see it through. He is good for new ideas, new eyes that see obstacles as opportunities, and clarity when tough choices need to be made. He doesn't seek to take over planning or owning any endeavor that he is called in to support. He offers what is wanted, shares freely his ideas and energy, but never dominates or controls. In my opinion, he is an ideal consultant in this way.

Finally, let me end my saying that Gregory Charles will be an engaging and worthwhile use of classroom time as a presenter or facilitator; he can deliver results for your group tailored to your intentions, and can serve as an inspiring consultant if you are looking to take a program in new directions. He will always do what he says, keep his word, and have the best interests of all at heart. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to email me at the address below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenda D. Walden".

Glenda. D. Walden, Ph.D.
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