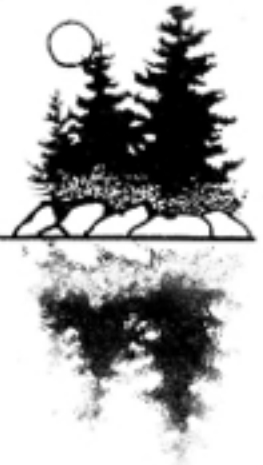


Maine Woods Forever

PO Box 692, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
207-882-8439 mainewoodsforever@yahoo.com



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Reference for James L. Sardonis

To Whom It May Concern:

I am delighted to share with you my thoughts about working with Jim Sardonis. We commissioned him to carve "Birds of a Feather", a pedestal with two hawks perched atop it rising to ten feet in height. As this was a commemoration of Henry David Thoreau and his Penobscot guides, we also commissioned a Penobscot artist to carve a traditional canoe. Jim had the added challenge of collaborating with this artist, Tim Shay, which is not an easy task. The two remained amicable and respectful throughout.

The experience was a sheer joy. Jim is timely, gracious, responsive, incredibly talented, flexible (we actually had to ask him to change his models from owls to hawks halfway through because we weren't aware of Native perspectives on owls until an elder set us straight), reliable, and he'll see the project through right until the end.

Suffice it to say, ours was not an easy project for an artist, and Jim found the ways to prevail. He arranged the installation for both sculptures. When his sculpture was delayed in arriving, he waited until it came, and when the truck had difficulty with clearance, he hung in there until everything was done just perfectly, remaining composed the entire time. He's very laid back, very amenable to suggestions, and just a super guy!

I have no complaints, just praise. If you have additional questions, please call me at 207-882-8439. Best of luck with your project!

Warm regards,

Jenn Barton, Project Coordinator
Maine Woods Forever