

Andy Collen

Founder & Creative Director, Happy Trails Animation

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To the Gigantic Playground Hiring Team,

I've had the pleasure of collaborating with Jeffery Ferguson — Phoenix — since 2015, and I'm delighted to recommend him. We've worked together across animation and graphics production and on his KO-STARS creative projects, including named productions our studio has been part of — *Gideon the Great: The Flying Ace*, *Portraits of Poe*, and *Culinary Kids*. When you make things together for a decade, you learn exactly what someone is made of, and Jeffery is the collaborator you want in the room.

Two things stand out. First, he is a genuine creative technologist — not someone who talks about tools, but someone who builds with them. He was working with generative image and video pipelines, and building his own production setups, well before most of our field caught up, and he uses them to move a concept quickly from idea to something you can actually look at. Second, he is relentlessly generative: he shows up with more ideas than a project needs and the discipline to pick the right one and finish it.

He is also simply good to work with — collaborative, generous with credit, and calm when a deadline gets tight. He makes the people around him better and the work better. Any team building interactive and immersive experiences would be lucky to have him, and I recommend him with real enthusiasm. I'm happy to talk with you directly about our work together.

Andy Collen · Happy Trails Animation, LLC

Draft prepared for Andy Collen's review, editing, and signature. Please adjust anything that doesn't reflect your own words before signing, and add your preferred contact details in the header.