



September 26, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of reference for the Phinney Design Group based on my experience in working with them in the construction of our new Bio Building at the museum.

The Phinney Design Group was responsible for the design and construction phases of the Bio Building and worked with our team to provide an exciting vibrant solution to the facility. Their expertise in sustainable design and construction and their attentiveness to detail during both the design and construction phases were key factors in the success of the project. They embraced our goals of building as green as possible and offered additional green solutions that we had not thought about—none of these suggested additions increased the overall cost. I found their professional aptitude to be of the highest degree. In addition to being the architect for the project and helping us get our building open, they have continued to be an advocate for our cause and have assisted us with fundraising events and getting the word out about the benefits of our museum. In fact, starting this summer we will be featuring the Bio Building in a new outdoor exhibit called “The New Path” that showcases the building’s green components as well as our other green building features on the site.

I am confident they will bring creativity in their approach to design and sustainable practices as part of any project they are involved with and will do it in a manner that exemplifies their attention to the balance between the two. I would recommend them as a key part of any project team.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Ratcliffe
Executive Director