Michael Pickard
Visual Arts

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Las Vegas Rockman
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Michael Pickard is a self-proclaimed archaeologist who has been studying the Las Vegas valley since 1995. He received his degree in 2017. He has been demonstrating his unique talent of rock stacking to unsuspecting audience for over 20 years. After picking up a ton of rock everyday he started to gain an understanding of the different minerals in the rocks and where to find them. He learned about geometric shapes, their weights, and their feel. He started to stack the rocks, tip to tip, and became a master of this art form. Michael believes that through the practice of stone stacking the practitioner leans to communicate with nature. They learn how to relieve stress, gain balance and patience and an understanding of geometry while beautifying the community no matter where one is at.

Michael took first place in sculpture at the Celebrating Life art contest. To categorize his art is difficult but audiences are sure to be amazed by his performance and explanation of his art form. His favorite presentation is to install the rocks at an unexpected location. Anyone who sees the rocks standing tip to tip while the wind is blowing asks themselves “Why is it still standing?”

School & Community Workshops
How to Stack Rocks: I bring in a large assortment of specialty rocks. I create a few examples of stacked rocks. I let the students/ people try to stack the rocks on their own. After unsuccessful attempts, I explain the process and show them how to do it.