

Dear friends,

After the state of emergency was declared this spring, a slew of changing directions and orders followed, and we eventually decided to cancel in-person programming through June, that choice extended into summer, and now fall. Our work as we knew it was forever changed. <u>At an organization all about forming meaningful connections and engaging in authentic and deep ways with participants</u>, the inability to meet in person threatened our very identity. Our team was left with many questions, the most paramount of which was how do we do what we do, when the way we've always done it no longer exists?

Well, with some creative thinking and a lot of positivity, the Inclusive Arts Vermont team sprang into action. Current programs were redesigned to go virtual, new programs were rolled out, and the innovative ideas haven't stopped. Donate today to help us keep this momentum!

We could have been frozen by this time of seismic change. Instead, we used it as the catalyst our group needed to think outside the box. Heck, we threw away the box and found a whole new container!

Our previously in-person programs for adults and children went entirely virtual. Teaching artists faced the challenge head-on and adapted their methods to meet with participants via videoconferencing. Their tenacity and grace under pressure in this time inspires me. The Adult Arts Education classes continue to foster connections and help individuals with disabilities work towards meeting their own personal goals. Additionally, we recently unveiled an entirely new selection of professional development programs for organizations, administrators, and



educators. We also rolled out an entire suite of new programs for children, adults, and families – helping individuals find community through creativity during a time of isolation. <u>Visit our website to</u> see the manifestation of all these shifts and adaptations.

We will continue to work diligently and mindfully to meet the needs of our participants and our community, and provide creative programming that engages Vermonters of all abilities. <u>We hope you'll consider donating today</u> to ensure the arts in Vermont are inclusive of all who want to be a part of them.

With immense gratitude,

Katie Miller, Executive Director

## To contact us with questions or to learn more about our programming and resources, email or call:

info@inclusiveartsvermont.org 802-871-5002

## Thank you for your continued support!

The mission of Inclusive Arts Vermont is to use the magic of the arts to engage the capabilities and enhance the confidence of children and adults with disabilities. We do this through education, exhibition, and capacity building programs for teachers, students, artists, and organizations.