



THE UMBRELLASM
ARTS & ENVIRONMENT

January 11, 2021

Greetings from the Musketaquid Studio,

We hope you all are staying safe and well this winter!

It has been an extraordinary year at The Umbrella Arts Center. As we look to the promise of spring, we want to share some reflections and news from the past months in thanks for all that your support has made possible.

The Arts & Environment Program has successfully adapted to the coronavirus pandemic, transitioning programming to virtual platforms as we did with [Earth Month 30/50](#) in the spring as well as a robust slate of COVID-safe activities. Classes are available virtually, but with much of our programming outdoors, we have been able to continue to provide in-person workshops, such as [Ninjas in Nature](#) and [Winter Solstice](#) - unique and valuable resources for our community.

And as we develop plans for the coming months, we are proud to announce that the Arts & Environment Program received a \$20,000 grant from the [Foundation for MetroWest](#) for 2021 projects. This grant will go towards safe, public arts programming for Earth Day, for projects with [Minute Man National Historical Park](#), and more. We are grateful to the Foundation for their support!

This year also brought some changes to our staff. **Program Director Nancy Lippe** left The Umbrella in October to pursue an exciting new opportunity in her home state of Colorado, where she joins a team of philanthropic consultants, [The DeBoskey Group](#). Nancy led the Arts & Environment Program for eight years and made immeasurable contributions. She dramatically expanded the reach and scope of our programs, benefiting thousands of participants, and our local and surrounding community as a whole. She made every volunteer feel valued, appreciated, and part of something important, so they returned year after year. We will miss her welcoming inclusivity, her creativity, her collaborative and positive spirit and so much more. Her place in this community is lasting. She will always be a huge asset wherever she focuses her energy and passion!

While we are saddened by Nancy's departure, we are also delighted that **Caroline Provost** is stepping into the role of Program Coordinator. Caroline has been part of the Arts & Environment Program since 2019 when she started as Program Assistant. Since then, she has demonstrated commitment to our mission to educate the community about the environment and instill a sense of place through the arts. She brings her own positive energy, strong organizational abilities, creative problem solving, and wisdom beyond her years. How lucky we are!

Our program remains strong, ever more needed and vital in these isolating and precarious times. As always, we are grateful for your continued support and participation. We hope to see you at one of our [virtual events](#) or perhaps outside enjoying [environmental art](#)! We look forward to coming together again later this year.

Wishing you all a healthy new year inspired by nature and your creative spirit,

The Musketaquid Steering Committee

Welcoming Caroline Provost as Program Coordinator

Jeannie Abbott
Ellie Bemis
Pamela Bracco
Susanna Kamon
CC King
Scott Richardson
Mimsey West