

Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival

Awaken Your Inner Artist

VOL. 1, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2020

Director's Note

This is my favorite part of the year. I love the Christmas music. I love the baking. I love the extra time with family. I love how the snow and the lights play off each other. I love finding or making a great gift for a loved one.

What I love most is the sense of Hope and Wonder that fills the season. It may be dark and cold outside. It may have been a year filled with tragedy and pain and fear and unfathomable obstacles. It may be a year where we cannot afford to buy Christmas presents or cannot actually gather with those we love the most. All these things may be true...but there is Hope. There is Hope that life will be better in the coming year. There is Hope that we will be better and do better with how we treat each other. There is Hope that the pain of this year will springboard us into amazing places that we never dreamed we would go. Our best days are not behind us...they are still to come.

The Arts will play a central role in those upcoming better days. That's what artists do. They help us express what we have been through and they help us look forward through uncertainty. I do not know what Festival will end up looking like in 2021. I am working on plans and getting logistics squared away...and holding onto those plans very loosely because we will not know for sure until we arrive in February and July. It could be business as usual. It could be total lockdown or anything in between. We don't know. But we hope and we believe that on the other side of this experience there will be treasure to be found and community to be shared. I invite you to join me in hoping during this December season.

Thankful for all your support,
James



What's Next? Guest Artist Interview Series

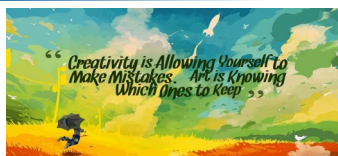
Beginning this month, James, our Executive Director is spending some one on one time with some of our Guest Artist in a series of interviews. Each interview will run about 15-20 minutes and then have a little lesson where James will get to learn from our artist. Stay tuned for more details!



Artist Spotlight~ Caitlin Warbelow

Originally from Fairbanks, Alaska, Caitlin Warbelow is a violinist and fiddler currently residing in Manhattan. Caitlin has a new project called Tune Supply. It is Personalized performance and instruction delivered digitally for the socially distanced world. Check it out at <http://www.tunesupply.com>. You can have access to different performers, genres and both performances and instruction.

Caitlin has previously performed with Riverdance's "Heartbeat of Home" as well as Sting's musical on Broadway, "THE LAST SHIP". She has toured with Cherish the Ladies, The Alt, Mick Moloney and the Green Fields of America, Michael Londra and Celtic Fire, Trinity Dance Company, and the Cathie Ryan Band, among many others. Caitlin performs, records, and teaches extensively in NYC and around the country in a variety of traditional and popular Irish and American genres, and occasionally returns to her roots as a classical violinist. We are so lucky to have Caitlin as part of festival and as our first guest in our Interview Series!



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