

# ashlandartcenter

[www.ashlandartcenter.org](http://www.ashlandartcenter.org) • 357 East Main Street, Ashland, OR • [info@ashlandartcenter.org](mailto:info@ashlandartcenter.org)

September 14, 2020

Hello friends and supporters,

As many of you know, Ashland Art Center closed its doors to the public in March 2020 due to the impact of COVID 19. We have been using this down time to re-imagine and restructure the organization and have made considerable progress towards our goal of resuming operations in 2021. The recent catastrophic fires have presented some formidable new obstacles to that goal, but we are determined to persevere.

Even though the Art Center has currently suspended all programs and services due to the absence of staff and income, the Board of Directors unanimously agree that we must find ways to offer whatever resources we can to our beloved artistic community. The need for shelter/food/clothing is immediate and critical, but we realize that those needs are best handled by the many organizations who have experience in disaster recovery and services.

Therefore, the Art Center is currently formulating ideas on how to effectively provide some assistance in the aftermath of the fires. Due to our circumstances, and COVID social distancing requirements, our options are limited. But what we CAN offer immediately is temporary studio space at no cost. Priority consideration will be given to artists who have lost their working spaces due to the fire. We are asking you to please share this information with anyone needing a place to resume working on their art. (All types of art mediums)

**Please email [info@ashlandartcenter.org](mailto:info@ashlandartcenter.org) regarding studio space.**

We will continue to explore ways to be of assistance, including some restorative art related projects. (Look for upcoming announcements on our Facebook and Instagram pages)

We ask that you bear with us as we implement these services as we are all dealing with various levels of impact, from emotional trauma to devastating property loss. The Art Center is committed to offering as much support and comfort as possible to our community during this time of immeasurable hardship.

Sincerely,

**The Ashland Art Center Board of Directors**