

A Note from Board President Debra Lay

Since March 12, we have been witness to a transformation of our own lives and undergone so much change, unpredictability, and uncertainty. Whether for work, child-care and eldercare, social gatherings or even how we simply cope with Covid-19, the last few months have incurred challenging circumstances. Just the same, each one of us on the Board of Directors has forged ahead and taken – as Robert Frost wrote in his poem *The Road Not Taken* – *the one less traveled by*. With a commitment to the development of IRW's 2020-2022 Strategic Plan, we gathered together in February and through Zoom meetings in June to determine action steps for our three major goal areas: Sustainability, Bridging and Visibility. With guidance from our consultant and advocate Carole Martin, the foundation

has been set for much internal work as our Board self-reflects and rolls up its collective sleeves to breathe life into our action steps in the coming months.

Just as Maine's bicentennial is upon us, IRW turns 15 this year and we celebrate this milestone as our Board continues to welcome new members. Rachel Singh of Franklin, Maine, joined our Board. An adjunct faculty member of College of the Atlantic and a first grade teacher in Bar Harbor, Rachel brings an educator's perspective and an enthusiastic approach to our organization. Welcome, Rachel! We also acknowledge Hannah Whalen for her years of contributions to IRW, first as a consultant and then as a Board member and its President. As Hannah steps away from the Board, she shared: *I will al-*

ways have a special place in my heart for IRW and will remain an advocate, donor and champion for you. Thank you, Hannah!

As you read about IRW's specially-designed school programs that were customized for virtual and in-school learning, the work that continued with *Getting the Right Start* and the creation and launch of our podcast, *Foreword*, it is clear that IRW's spark for innovation is on the right road. Maine's bicentennial theme is *Leading the Way*, and as we continue to inspire a passion for reading and learning among children living on Maine's coastal islands and in rural communities in Washington County, our road to success couldn't be clearer; it's just what IRW does. And doing so *has made all the difference*.



TREASURER'S REPORT

In spite of COVID -19, IRW is in a strong financial position thanks to the generous support we continue to receive from individuals and foundations and due to IRW's responsible fiscal management.

For the 2019 fiscal year we budgeted increases in programs and payroll, reflecting increased numbers of school and community programs, growing cost for health insurance and increased operational expenses. Happily, we ended the year with revenues outpacing expenses.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, we retained Horton, McFarland & Veysey of Ellsworth to prepare our compiled financial statements. Copies are available for your review upon request.



Allison Poteet, Treasurer

Financial Summary

Summary Profit & Loss - Fiscal Year 2019 (with 2018 comparison)

INCOME	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019
Grants	162,150	129,924
Contributions	284,922	341,413
Other (net)	3,183	13,778
TOTAL	\$450,255	\$485,115
EXPENSE	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019
Programs	282,183	303,819
Fundraising	56,416	66,859
G&A	84,775	68,676
TOTAL	\$423,374	\$439,361
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	\$26,881	\$45,754

Summary Balance Sheet (As of July 31, 2020)

ASSETS	
Current Assets	\$241,826
Fixed Assets	\$958
Long Term Assets	\$51,953
TOTAL ASSETS	\$294,737
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Payroll Liabilities	\$0
Other Current Liabilities	\$1,091
Total Liabilities	\$1,092
Total Equity	\$293,645
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$294,737

For more detailed financial information, please contact: Jan Coates, Executive Director (jcoates@islandreadersandwriters.org) or Allison Poteet, Treasurer (allisonkupfer@gmail.com)

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