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Several weeks ago, I traveled through Rhode Island's T.F. Green International Airport while an active shooter was at large outside the building.

Inside the terminal, people were silent, feeling both safe on the other side of a heavily guarded security checkpoint, and deeply concerned about what could happen to us. I searched for anything to interrupt the quiet — a song, a comforting word, something to soothe me.

My search is ongoing.

I, like so many others, am desperately hoping for an end to the incessant violence — the war in Ukraine, unspeakable atrocities in Israel, Gaza, and Sudan, the attack on a bowling alley in Maine — and a call for peace.

With all these chasms between people and place, I find solace in what artists offer us. Whether it's a poem, a protest, a sculpture, a TikTok video or a studio visit, art creates space to lift each other up and affirm our shared humanity. Art sustains me when all seems lost.

At Artist Communities Alliance (ACA), our mission statement is a question, not an answer, because we constantly interrogate what is required to disrupt the oppressive machinery that prevents a just future. We support artists and arts workers because life without art, cultural exchange and spaces of transformation leave us hopeless.

Please consider a gift to ACA so we can continue realizing our vision for an artist residency field that shapes a world where people have the freedom to unleash their creative potential and prosper in inclusive, just, joyful, and accessible environments.

In community,

Lisa Funderburke
President and CEO

Make a gift in the way that works best for you: write a check payable to Artist Communities Alliance or visit: www.ArtistCommunities.org/donate. Your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.