

Letter from MAC's new Executive Director

Dear Friends,

I am incredibly honored and humbled to have the opportunity to continue to uphold the traditions and the mission of the Monroe Arts Center as the new Executive Director. My first week at the MAC has been filled new faces and much learning. With a Master's in Public Policy, over 20 years' experience in non-profit management, and a background in the arts, I thrive on challenges and new experiences.

Almost everything I have done in my adult life has been based on the idea that we should learn something new every day. I have come to believe that the arts are a pathway to teaching, not just critical thinking skills, but also collaboration, empathy, and tolerance. The arts can be used to explore important social questions, understand new ideas, and create historical context. When we find that place in ourselves that allows us to confidently explore ideas that are new to us, we will be uniquely able to meet the challenges of the future.

As the MAC moves into the future, rest assured that we will honor what has been built here, as well as the community and people who created and nurtured this wonderful organization. We will grow together and make a difference! As I settle into my new home, and my role as Executive Director, I will not be thinking alone. I am being supported by an immensely talented staff and a dedicated Board of Directors here at the MAC. I would love to hear your thoughts too! If you happen to see me on the Square, I urge you to say hello and introduce yourself or stop by the MAC and say hi! I look forward to getting to know many of you in the coming months and personally thank you for your commitment to the MAC.

Kathy Hennessy

