

A Message From the President

By Kimberly Sullivan

This challenging year is in its waning hours. For some, it cannot conclude fast enough, while for others, it is far from over as we enter this final push to 2021.

Being the year 2020, I couldn't help but think about the concept of vision. If we all learned one thing from 2020 it is to keep our eyes set and focused on what really matters to us and what is really important.

What *is* really important? For some, the changes to how and where we perform our work has helped crystalize professional goals and interests now and into the future. Others have examined their environment and surroundings to determine where they want to spend their time, and ultimately live, in a new virtual and remote world. Finally, and for many, the people we surround ourselves with, and who our true communities are, have come into greater focus. On behalf of the entire board, we hope TAM is one of those sacred communities for all our members.

Once we determine what is important and what we're really committed to, then we want to align our actions and ways of being with that commitment. If we prioritize the people in our lives and our relationships first, then an incredibly effective way of being that aligns with that commitment is to lead with an intention of love.

Leading with love does not just mean grand gestures and declarations. We can all lead with love on the micro level too, in every communication and interaction we have.

What does it mean to lead with love in a conversation or simple interaction? It becomes an intention that acts like a frame or lens through which you see and hear the world. Just like we can change the glasses we wear on our faces, we can always play with our intentions in our minds and see which intentions bring our worlds into clearer focus.

When we lead with an intention of love, and use that lens, then we listen more deeply for true understanding, we speak more kindly with words of connection and gratitude, and we act with generosity in every moment. We not only need the intention to orient outward, but also inward to ourselves.

During this holiday season, consider the commitments you've made and the intentions you hold to bring those commitments into existence. If you're looking for a new lens, and an intention to support the people and communities you cherish, then consider one framed in love for yourself and others.

As we look to next year and the future of TAM, the organization's vision also depends on its people and this community. What TAM has been able to accomplish in this challenging year is nothing short of miraculous. That magic stems from you, its members, and our dedicated board working behind the scenes.

This year, we are calling for recommendations for open board positions. We want our board to continue to reflect a vibrant mix of backgrounds, identities, and ideas to keep generating the energy and creativity that continues to propel TAM towards new horizons.

Please take some time and consider individuals who could contribute to our TAM community through one of the open roles. Even more so, challenge yourselves to consider individuals with whom you may not agree on every issue, but whom you respect and know could offer a unique and varied perspective to TAM.

On behalf of the entire TAM board, we wish you all peace, joy, and lots of love this holiday season and beyond.