Hello Friends,

Under normal circumstances, as spring turns to summer, we'd be nursing cool drinks on shaded porches
This June doesn't feel all that normal, and the artwork at the top of this newsletter — posted just a few days ago to Instagram — sort of sums it up. There are forest fires raging in Canada which created apocalyptic orange skies over the east coast. In Florida, a massive blob of poisonous seaweed is inundating beaches; in Texas, it's thousands of dead fish — all a result of warming waters and toxic runoff. Arizona is limiting development for lack of water; California is limiting insurance coverage for risk of wildfires. It's a lot.

Micah Bazant's artwork — created with Healing Clinic Collective, one of our fiscally sponsored projects — acknowledges how hard it is to watch all of this unfold. But it also reminds us that we need to envision a brighter future and we can never give up. And, that we must celebrate the good stuff — conservation measures seem to be helping the critically endangered vaquita, progress is being made to save the Colorado River, the first of several landmark climate change trials opened this week in Montana, and Christian Cooper — the Black Central Park birder who won our hearts in 2020 — is coming to Disney+. His TV show will advocate for preservation and likely inspire queer people and people of color to find comfort in the great outdoors.

Speaking of queer: Happy Pride Month. Don't forget the first pride was a riot led by queer POC. Wave your flag and dance your butt off but remember to acknowledge the history, the fight, the culture, and the fact that it is still illegal or punishable to be queer in over 60 countries around the world, and that the rights of LGBTQIA+ folks right here at home are under attack.

Last but not least, as we honor Juneteenth, we recognize that philanthropy alone cannot substitute for genuine relationships, much-needed reparations, and real solutions. In the meantime, the latest blog in our Shifting Philanthropy series dives into the transformative power of shifting philanthropic dynamics towards interdependence and resilience and acknowledging the critical need for a deeper examination of systemic issues within our sector. Kathy Moore, MSC's Senior Director of Advancement, emphasizes the importance of embracing the power of abundance: "by operating from this place, we unlock a realm of boundless creativity, daring experimentation, and courageous risk taking. It is through this audacious stance that we can unearth genuine solutions capable of transforming our systems and culture at their core." Consider giving generously and frequently this summer — abundance attracts abundance. You can support our partners here.

Now, read on for some happenings from the MSC ecosystem:

Building Liberatory Masculinity
Save the dates for the upcoming Building Liberatory Masculinity Retreat hosted by Brown Boi Project — one of our fiscally sponsored projects. It runs October 5–9 and will offer an experiential space designed to develop leadership skills, promote healing, and build capacity to address manifestations of patriarchal violence. All trans and nonbinary community builders, organizers, artists, and advocates engaging with masculinity are encouraged to apply. Email info@brownboiproject.org for more information.
from their goal of ending youth incarceration in Alameda County and beyond. Join the revolution and demand a reimagined youth justice system that prioritizes care and invests in our young people. The Alameda County Free Our Kids Youth Justice 10 Point Plan, written by and for young people, outlines the support and resources needed for a brighter future. Sign the petition now to make a lasting impact and create a community that uplifts our youth!

Unveiling Our Global Interdependence
In 2015, our co-founder and vice chair of our board, Taj James, wrote a thought provoking blog post exploring the interconnection of migration, climate justice, and global interdependence. From our archives, this insightful piece gains even more significance as we witness the harsh impact of policies like Florida's SB 1718 while over 2.8 million migrants are denied asylum under Title 42. Join us in rediscovering the urgency for equitable immigration reform. Read more here.

Tools for Alignment
Tension and disagreement are natural aspects of collective work, but they don’t have to hinder progress. Our Movement Strategy Network partners, Facilitating Power, have shared valuable strategies to help navigate conflict and find alignment towards holistic solutions. Discover the tools they rely on for fostering collaboration and resolving differences in this handy resource here.

Help Wanted! Alliance for Felix Cove, an Indigenous-women-led grassroots organization, is searching for an administrative assistant.

Want to share an event or job in an e-newsletter or on MSC social media?
Request a submission form by emailing communications@movementstrategy.org.

Follow our LinkedIn for jobs at and within the MSC ecosystem!