

Dear Watershed Community,

As I noted [last week](#), Watershed takes the development of hope as an essential component alongside learning about great challenges in the world (and if you haven't yet watched the *Reasons to be Cheerful* short [video](#), I recommend it. It's worth the 90 seconds of your time -- David Byrne makes me smile everytime I watch it!). Today I just want to mention a couple of other ways we are leaning into this, then close with two invitations.

Our Head's Council has made a number of suggestions – here are a few:

- What if we put stories of solutions on the school walls – perhaps we could have a bulletin board of rotating stories of solutions, perhaps we could share stories during community meeting?
- How can we ensure that when we meet with experts in our expedition courses, we ask them about *why* they do the work they do, *why* they work on that particular challenge, and what gives *them* hope?
- What if we had an issue of our student magazine (*The Watermark*) that focused on solutions and hope?
- And a bigger one: might we host a student conference on hope – inviting students from across the region to learn from one another about sources of hope?

I recently read a beautiful book by Terry Tempest Williams: *When Women Were Birds: Fifty-four Variations on Voice* (I recommend this to all!). In a section describing her deep sadness about our treatment of the environment and public lands, and about the work she undertook to make a difference, one line struck me like a bolt: "Good work is a stay against despair." Yes, it is.

Or as Greta Thunberg, climate activist, reminds us, "The one thing we need more than hope is action. Once we start to act, hope is everywhere."

And now two invitations:

1. Please share your ideas with me. What does hope in this uncertain age mean to you? What are your sources of hope? How do you cultivate it?
2. Join us to support one of our partners – Harvest for Hope – at the Empty Bowls Event on February 29 at 5:30pm at Watershed (see information below and [here](#)). Watershed's Ceramics class spearheaded this event as a way to address food local insecurity. Maybe you, too, will find that, "Once we start to act, hope is everywhere."

Thanks for reading.

Warmly,

Tim

Empty Bowls Event at Watershed to Benefit Harvest of Hope Food Pantry

February 29, 2024

HARVEST OF HOPE
PANTRY

What Should I Expect?

- * A **handcrafted bowl** to take home - made and donated by members of the Boulder Potters' Guild & Watershed ceramics students
- * A simple meal of **soup & bread** - generously donated by our sponsors
- * **100%** of your ticket price goes to **Harvest of Hope Food Pantry in Boulder**

What is Empty Bowls?

A worldwide, grassroots movement started by artists and craftspeople, Empty Bowls events raise money for food-related charities to care for and feed the hungry in local communities.

Buy a ticket
today & join us
on Feb. 29 at
5:30pm!

Thank You Event Sponsors!

