



*Executive Director*  
**Audrey Churgin** *retires*

For thirteen years, from 2005 to 2018, MASC benefitted from its Executive Director, Audrey Churgin's creativity, energy and wealth of arts experience. As you may know, Audrey took time away from her position with MASC for medical leave in 2018. We now inform MASC friends and colleagues that Audrey will not be returning.

Active in the artistic community for over four decades as a professional artist, teacher, arts-activist and administrator, Audrey has played a prominent role in many art and arts education initiatives in Ottawa, the province and across Canada. Under her leadership, MASC broadened and deepened its work in schools and the community, developing new quality programming and building many new productive partnerships. She was responsible for raising MASC's profile with the City of Ottawa, helping to establish it as a city partner through the Arts Service Organization funding stream, serving students, seniors, newcomers to Canada, and at-risk-youth. During her tenure, Awesome Arts moved under MASC's umbrella. In 2017, MASC Awesome Arts was recognized through an *International Spotlight Award* in Washington DC, which is a cherished highlight of the organization.

Other initiatives Audrey developed at MASC were an artist-to-artist mentorship program, an expansion of rural Ottawa programming, as well as partnership with the former ArtsSmarts Network, the National Round table for Teacher Education in the Arts and *Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement in Ontario*.

Of her time as Executive Director of MASC, Audrey says, "I was so privileged to be working at MASC, and to share 13 years of my life with a truly brilliant staff, talented artists, the most giving volunteers I have ever met, incredibly generous donors, supporters and teachers and students, all in a city that truly appreciates what MASC brings to it."

Please join MASC in thanking Audrey for her dedication, knowledge and commitment in serving our community, and in wishing her well in her future endeavours.