



# MONASTIC ACADEMY

FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE ON EARTH

## CEDAR

COMMUNITY FOR THE  
EXPERIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF  
AWAKENING AND RESPONSIBILITY

SUMMER QUARTERLY REPORT

# 2018

## LETTER FROM CAMERON JOYNER



Dear Friends,

This morning as the breathtaking rays of the sun begin to penetrate the darkness, just before morning chanting, I was filled with gratitude for all of you. Your efforts, kindness and generosity made this stage of the Monastic Academy possible. Thank you for your support. It allows us to move steadfastly towards our mission of preserving life on this beautiful planet.

The excitement of creating a monastery for the modern age continues to fuel us through various difficulties. This quarter we made progress on our most pressing challenge, raising a further \$174,609 for meditation spaces (zendos). We have completed fundraising for phase one. We raised \$105,000 -- over 60%. We still have one quarter to raise the final \$69,609 for phase two before the Vermont construction season ends.

These zendos are inseparable from our mission and our financial future. The lack of dedicated meditation space will cost us nearly \$20,000 this year. We currently have no choice but to use bedrooms for this purpose, which has negative and far-reaching consequences. We are able to serve fewer people, as we cannot host guests in those bedrooms. The lost revenue accrues from the guests we must turn away for lack of space as well as from those guests not recommending us to their contacts. This may ultimately cost us hundreds of thousands of dollars in loss of donations and payments. Additionally, the current arrangement requires retreatants to shuffle cushions from room to room multiple times a day. This interrupts their training and weakens their overall experience of the Monastic Academy. Most significant, without this space, the creation of a village of families here is not feasible. The good news is that the new zendo complex will solve these issues and allow us to provide a world class experience to match the quality of teachings provided by Soryu Forall. We look forward to sitting in these inspiring cathedrals with you.

Your support has propelled us towards our goals. We couldn't do this without you. Two-thirds of our overall debt reduction resulted from loan forgiveness by several of you this quarter. This relief speeds us through our commitment to pay off the loans and allows us to divert funds into self-sustaining projects like the building the zendos that lie at the heart of our mission. We are humbled by your contributions and belief in us. Thank you for being a part of our community.

In friendship,

**Cameron Joyner**  
Executive Director



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## FINANCIAL SITUATION

The support of our community has helped us move into a stronger financial position. We have had overwhelming support from our donors, fueled by a deep belief in our mission. Our total income for this quarter was unusually high. For our operating budget, we brought in \$63,937, while spending \$62,319. For our project budget, we brought in \$305,000 and spent \$111,920. The project budget includes the zendos and the village (See the Village section below). We also received an additional \$107,000 in loan forgiveness from several of you. This support keeps us moving towards our mission to end human greed.

-  Raised \$105,000 towards phase two of our zendos project
-  Raised \$200,000 towards our village infrastructure
-  Received \$107,000 in generous loan forgiveness
-  Total debt reduction to date of \$158,000
-  Guest programs brought in \$38,816
-  Reduced debt from \$1,149,679 to \$1,042,679

## ZENDOS

The materials for the first zendo have arrived on site. We are in the final stage for permitting and the construction should begin this month. The first beautiful cathedral, 41 feet in diameter, opens a new chapter for our organization. Each day we feel inspired by the new possibilities this brings. With just \$69,609 more, we can complete the other two zendos. The entire complex is necessary to offer an appropriate center for the world-class instruction Soryu offers. It will support our guest programs, retreats, a larger resident body, and the village that is springing up around us.

-  Materials for the first zendo are on site
-  Construction is ready to go when permits are final
-  Raised \$105,000 for phase two toward a total of \$174,609





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## GUESTS

This quarter we began to shift the direction of our guest program. This was partially inspired by two of you, Katherine MacLean and John Motsinger. We are now giving guests more care, integration, and attention. The rigor and challenge of this training can lead to difficult experiences as well as joyful breakthroughs. It is our responsibility to support others through all of these even after they return home, in order to optimize the benefits of this training.

To provide this level of care we will be supporting fewer guests. This is in line with who we are as an organization since depth is our greatest strength. This smaller group of guests will also offer deeper support to us. This will come in different ways through different people. Some will contribute time and effort, some will contribute financially, some will move into our village. With this new model our income from guests nearly doubled from last quarter, as they received greater benefit. We expect this growth to continue.





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## GUEST NUMBERS

### ACTUAL GUEST NUMBERS (SECOND QUARTER)

# OF GUESTS	TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS GUESTS SPEND HERE	REVENUE FROM GUEST PAYMENTS	REVENUE FROM GUEST DONATIONS	REVENUE PER GUEST PER NIGHT	TOTAL REVENUE FROM GUESTS
10	56	\$35,630	\$3,186	\$693	*\$38,816

\*This constitutes just under 10% of our total revenue

### QUARTERLY PROJECTED GUEST NUMBERS (FROM THE PROSPECTUS)

# OF GUESTS	TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS GUESTS SPEND HERE	REVENUE FROM GUEST PAYMENTS	REVENUE FROM GUEST DONATIONS	REVENUE PER GUEST PER NIGHT	TOTAL REVENUE FROM GUESTS
8.5	178	N/A	N/A	\$246	\$43,750

## LEADERSHIP EMERGES: PROFILE ON TASSHIN MICHAEL FOGLEMAN



Tasshin has recently returned for a second term as a resident. He lived at MAPLE as a resident from 2015-2017 and has returned to the monastery to join a small team of monastics that will be starting our new location in the San Francisco Bay Area in California. During his time here he held nearly every role and stood as a living example of the practice. Earlier this year, he took bodhisattva vows in a lay ordination with Shinzen and Soryu and received his name, Tasshin, 達真. 達 means "reach," "achieve," or "touch." 真 means "truth" or "authenticity."

Tasshin grew up in Massachusetts and went to school at St. John's College, Annapolis, MD, where he studied the Great Books and received a Liberal Arts degree. He has worked in many fields as a writing coach, a programmer, meditation teacher, business consultant, and small business owner. Tasshin is passionate about exploring the connection between contemplative practice, physical movement and exercise, and intellectual endeavors.

Tasshin's multitude of skills, deep care for others and strong dedication to the path make him the perfect choice for leadership at the second location in California. We appreciate his willingness to answer the call and complete the core team for our San Francisco location later this year.

### INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL:

#### *How have you benefited from your time at MAPLE?*

Residents at MAPLE play many roles. Not only do they do traditional monastic fare like mopping and sweeping, but they also serve to support the entire organization, including running various aspects of the nonprofit. I worked on several programs, including Modern Mindfulness for Schools and our Monastic Co-Working program. I gained many skills. I also became more confident. Above all, my training at MAPLE has helped me to learn the joy that comes with serving others. This has given me a rare and profound sense of purpose and direction.

#### *What has been your biggest challenge?*

My biggest challenge has been to take an honest look at my own shortcomings. When problems arise, it's so easy to complain or blame others, but that overlooks the fact that we are the common factor in all of the problems that arise in our life. If we do the uncomfortable and uncommon act of recognizing our own responsibility, we feel obligated to resolve the problems we create. For me, anger, sadness, fear and all their fun friends rear their heads in the intense training that MAPLE requires. I've had to learn new ways of recognizing and working with them.



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### VILLAGE

The interest in our village continues to gain momentum. Our long term vision for this is to have ten or so families living full time on the grounds around the monastery. Three families have toured the grounds with interest in building houses on our property and joining our community. One of these families has already contributed \$100,000 toward the necessary infrastructure (septic, roads, utilities, water) required to make this a reality. We continue to tackle the mundane tasks that lead to the creation of this exciting new phase of our organization. We are welcoming dedicated individuals and families to join. While these villagers will have the freedom to live as they wish, they will still commit to some level of participation in the monastic life in order to maintain the strength of community.

### MOVING FORWARD

The first quarter of this second year at the Monastic Academy has been one of growth and strengthening. As residents, we continue to mature in our practices and leadership skills. The zendo project has momentum as phase one construction begins. We are on schedule to pay back the loans and release our organization from debt. Through its evolution, The Monastic Academy continues to grow it's community of dedicated, focused and caring individuals who strive towards the goal that all people see the sacred nature of life on earth.



# SUMMER SCHEDULE

**August 17-24**

Week Long Retreat with Shinzen Young

**November (Dates And Information Forthcoming)**

Week Long Neuromodulation Retreat with Shinzen Young

## JOIN US

You are always welcome to visit for a day, a week, a month, or longer.

**Our address is:**

**751 Page Rd**

**Lowell, VT 05847**

If you'd like to come, or to be in touch for any reason, please email at [info@monastic.academy](mailto:info@monastic.academy) or call at 802-540-0820.

Thanks again for your support. Together we are building a whole new culture.

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