

# WOLF KAHN | EMILY MASON FOUNDATION

## **The Wolf Kahn | Emily Mason Foundation announces Ellen McCulloch-Lovell as Interim President/CEO**

APRIL 9, 2021, NEW YORK—The Wolf Kahn and Emily Mason Foundation, established in 1998 by the artists Wolf Kahn (1927–2020) and Emily Mason (1932–2019) today announced the appointment of Ellen McCulloch-Lovell as Interim President and CEO during an important time of transition and growth in the organization.

Originally founded to support cultural institutions through grants for exhibitions, artists residencies, and community engagement with the arts, the Kahn | Mason Foundation will continue the joint philanthropy of the two artists while it now expands its mission to serve as the steward of Wolf Kahn’s artistic legacy.

“I am thrilled to join the Foundation at this key stage in its development,” remarked Ellen McCulloch-Lovell. “As I work with the board to continue the philanthropic vision of Wolf and Emily, we will also broaden the foundation’s purpose to include the stewardship of the legacy of Wolf Kahn, a treasured American artist whose influence was significant in his lifetime and will be even greater valued in the future. We will also embark on joint projects together with the Emily Mason | Alice Trumbull Mason Foundation, such as conserving the artists’ archives, allowing both Foundations to be a resource for artists and scholars.”

The newly formed Emily Mason | Alice Trumbull Mason Foundation will spearhead the stewardship of Emily Mason’s artistic legacy alongside that of her mother’s, Alice Trumbull Mason (1904–1971) and embark on a philanthropic program dedicated to advancing opportunities for traditionally underrepresented artists. Together, these two Foundations preserve the vision of three artists—in one family—through exhibitions, publications, research, archives, and philanthropy.

“Ms. McCulloch-Lovell’s impressive career intertwines the arts, education, public policy and politics. She is the leader we need at this important moment in the Foundation’s history,” said Mara Williams, Board Chair of the Wolf Kahn | Emily Mason Foundation.

Emily Mason and Wolf Kahn, in their 62-year marriage, lived and worked between New York City and Vermont, where they raised a family, had independent studio practices, and a lifetime of sharing friendships and influencing each other. Both artists considered their own educations and opportunities in the arts to be formative. “Our parents understood the importance of cultural and educational institutions and valued how those entities could expand the public’s understanding of the visual arts while providing both visibility and creative retreats for artists. Their philanthropy will continue in this area as the truest expression of these beliefs. We are grateful to have the support and vision of Ms. McCulloch-Lovell, honoring our father’s artistic legacy in this foundation while collaborating with our mother and grandmother’s foundation,” stated Melany and Cecily Kahn, the artists’ daughters.

Prior to this current appointment, Ms. McCulloch-Lovell has led eight cultural and educational initiatives nationally and regionally.

Most recently, she served as Interim Executive Director for the Vermont Studio Center, an artists residency community in Johnson, Vermont, where she implemented effective management, guided the organization through pandemic practices, and assisted the Board search for a permanent chief executive.

From 2016–2018, Ms. McCulloch-Lovell worked with the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont as the dedicated Rock Point Legacy Minister. Her team efforts led to the conservation and enhancement of the Diocese’s 130 acres on Lake Champlain.

From 2004–2015, Ms. McCulloch-Lovell had the distinction of serving as the eighth and first female president of Marlboro College, an institution of liberal learning in Vermont, where she more than doubled the school’s endowment while overseeing all operations.

She was the founding director of the Veterans History Project, a national archive at the Library of Congress’ American Folklife Center that collects the first-hand accounts of those who served in war-time, where she worked from 2001–2004.

During the Clinton Administration, she led the White House Millennium Council, which used the White House as a showcase for the arts and the humanities in the US, and initiated a series of national programs. Most notable was First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's *Save America's Treasures*, a national preservation initiative adopted in 1998, and the first expansion of the Historic Preservation Fund in twenty years. She was Executive Director of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, a presidential commission with over 40 members, from government, the private sector, and the art world. The PCAH researched and issued an influential report, *Creative America*, which contained 55 recommendations on ways to strengthen the arts and the humanities. She also directed the Center for Arts and Culture, Washington DC's only think-tank for the arts in public policy.

Early in her career, Ms. McCulloch-Lovell served as U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy's Chief of Staff for ten years, working closely with him on his Senate leadership, service to Vermont, and political campaigns. Her experience as a grant-maker and grant-seeker came from thirteen years at the Vermont Arts Council, the state arts agency, which she led for eight years. It was through this work that she first met Wolf Kahn and Emily Mason.

For further information on the Wolf Kahn | Emily Mason Foundation please visit: [kahnmasonfoundation.org](http://kahnmasonfoundation.org)

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