

DRAWING BREATH

Aspiration:

*The act or process of drawing breath.
The hope or ambition of achieving something.*



I begin every day by drawing a breath *and* trying to envision what is possible – without ignoring the current reality. This is leading me to create a new body of work: **Drawing Breath** is an evolving collection of art books and containers fashioned from my inventory of 50+ years of printmaking. Books and containers will hold aspirations, affirmations, and predictions to help us envision the future we want for ourselves, our families, our communities, and our country.

You are invited to contribute to this collection of visions for our future. Answer one question, or answer all of them, but please share your aspirations:

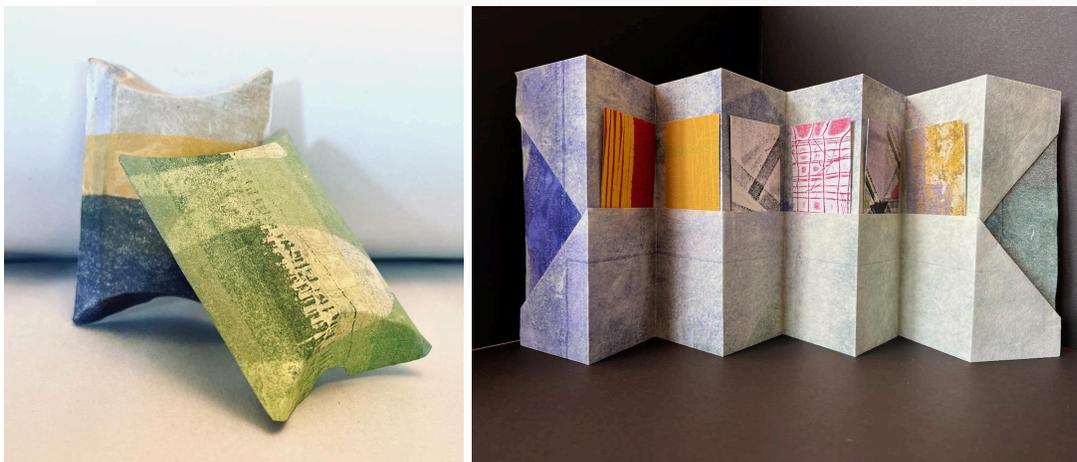
- What's the future you want for yourself and your family? Your community? Your country?
- What should be preserved and protected? What should change?
- Where do you see possibility in the midst of current crises?

Send me an email. You can phrase your aspirations as predictions, affirmations, or pithy fortune cookies. Be specific if you can. Let me know if I can include your name along with your statements. And please pass this request along to people in your network. My vision rests on including a mountain of crowd-sourced aspirations. Send some now and more later. Or send them as the future unfolds before us – whenever you get a glimpse of opportunity and possibility.

And thank you to those who have already responded. Here's a small taste of what I've received so far:

- I want everyone in my community to work together for a common goal, whether it be food security, illness or loneliness or anything that affects the human condition. We need to see each other, really look at faces and understand what each of us needs.
(Jami Taback)

- I'm part of many different communities and I'm also not sure how to differentiate this from country. This leads me to offer that I want for my community to be our country and all of humanity. And I want this to be a shared view - without losing our individuality. *(Max Stier)*
- I want to live in the country that finally, as Martin Luther King Jr., put it (I am paraphrasing) is true to what it said on paper. That means a country in which your life outcomes are not predicted by where you were born or the color of your skin or any aspect of your identity. I want my family, my community, and my country to protect our earth and its species – so climate change no longer poses the dire threat it currently does. I want my family – and everyone in my community and in this country – to enjoy the same freedoms and protections: basic rights that are now under increased threat like the right to protest and speak out or to be whatever identity you know yourself to be ... but also the right to decent healthcare and a decent standard of living. I want to see kindness surge and hatred fade, real-life connections replace unending screen time, and diversity celebrated instead of demonized. *(Phil Buchanan)*



A sample of the objects that will hold our collective aspirations.

Safe Keeping: Hope-filled objects from the **Drawing Breath** series will be installed in the vintage hotel safe at the [Center for Creativity](https://www.creativitycenter.org/), Redwood City during July and August 2026, marking the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Visitors will be able to examine the contents of each of the safe's cubby holes. They will also be able to deposit their own aspirations, affirmations, and predictions in a hand made ledger to be shared and held in **Safe Keeping**.

Barbara Kibbe

Website: www.barbarakibbe.com

Email: hello@barbarakibbe.com