

*This is the eighth and final article in our series of updates about the Star of Hope Foundation, which was established by the artist Robert Indiana prior to his death. The purpose of the Foundation is to support arts education and working artists in Maine.*

## **Star of Hope - A re-cap of who we are and what we are doing**

Over the past two months, we have published these updates to let you know more about the mission of Star of Hope Foundation, our properties on Vinalhaven, the art collection, and Mr. Indiana's personal papers. We have shared with you some of our challenges and opportunities, such as our difficult decision to raze the Sail Loft, and our exciting future plans for that property. Clearly, there is much work ahead of us.

Our more immediate priorities include continuing to make the Lodge a structurally sound, safe, and welcoming building; creating a new public greenspace on the Sail Loft property; completing the inventory and authentication of artwork in the collection; and working with the Archives of American Art at the Smithsonian to assemble and organize Mr. Indiana's personal papers, memorabilia, and photographs.

And while the Vinalhaven community remains central to much of our work, at the same time we must also turn our attention to remaining legal issues and our broader mandate to support working artists and art education in Maine. That will likely involve developing new and interesting partnerships with other arts-related institutions and programs.

As we stated in the first update, the Foundation board is committed to always doing the right thing in carrying out our mission and working with the people of Vinalhaven. There will be more updates along the way, but for now we hope that you have a better understanding of who we are and what we are doing.

Please visit our website, [starofhopefoundation.org](http://starofhopefoundation.org), often and reach out anytime with questions or concerns to [starofhope@starofhopefoundation.org](mailto:starofhope@starofhopefoundation.org).

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This Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, the Foundation's Managing Director, Carole Martin, plans to be at the Vinalhaven Public Library to meet islanders and gather information about the timing and scope for community input about the design of the new public greenspace at 3 Clam Shell Alley. Please drop by anytime between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to talk with Carole.

**NOTE:** This assumes that the 8:45 ferry is running from Rockland to Vinalhaven and the 2:45 is running from Vinalhaven to Rockland. Please keep an eye out for ferry notices.