



April 15, 2022

Dear Clearwater Community,

As we all know, COVID changed so much about the world we live in. Like many, Clearwater was forced to take a step back and reflect on our organization and what we can do better.

With the scope of its typical programming and accompanying cash flow severely reduced by the pandemic, Clearwater did not have the upfront cash necessary to begin planning and production for a 2022 Clearwater Festival. Under the circumstances, the organization would not be able to build enough reserves by June 2022 to be able to weather a festival event that didn't meet financial expectations due to inclement weather, continued COVID related health concerns, or other risks. As a result, the board voted not to pursue a Clearwater Festival in 2022.

In December 2021 the board adopted a [strategic plan](#), which recognizes that music is an important and integral part of the Clearwater community, its heritage, and programming. We currently have a working group taking steps towards a proposal for a re-envisioned 2023 Clearwater Festival; the board will plan to review this proposal later this spring. Meanwhile, the strategic plan (priority C) includes more general planning into how music can sustainably be incorporated into Clearwater's programming throughout the year.

Soon after the adaptation of our strategic plan, we welcomed a new [Executive Director, David Toman](#). The Board and staff are confident that David is a solid fit to advance the goals of our strategic plan and mission, including the role of music and festivals in our future.

We're sorry that we will not see you at Croton this June, but hope that you'll continue to maintain your [membership](#), celebrate and advocate for the Hudson River with us at other Clearwater events including a [sail onboard Clearwater](#).

We hope to see you on the river real soon.

Steve Stanne  
Board President