

Ambient Grounds Monthly Newsletter

Hello, and welcome to the first edition of the Ambient Grounds newsletter! As I sit here typing this, I can't help but feel a wave of excitement for what's happening now and what's still to come.

The startup process has been difficult, confusing, and (more often than not) a bit overwhelming. I have a great support system, though, and I'm taking things one step at a time. Those steps are now leading us closer to our first public program outing, and I'm stoked to get out there and get boots on the ground.

What is Ambient Grounds?

To put it simply, we are an organization devoted to bringing ambient electronic music to the community. I truly believe that listening to, and learning to create, ambient music can have a deep impact on individuals and the people around them. My goal is to expand access to electronic music education, helping people grow personally and build new connections in the community.

What Are We Working On?

We are beginning this Ambient Grounds journey with two core programs: Sound Explorers and Hear the Earth. Both aim to accomplish our mission in unique ways.

Sound Explorers brings the power of electronic music production into a travel-friendly, mobile music recording studio. Equipped with synthesizers, keyboard controllers, speakers, and a laptop, we are able to bring electronic music education to anywhere your community gathers. Whether it's your school, local library, favorite park, or even your neighborhood, Ambient Grounds can bring the music to you. Ambient Grounds will teach the basics of synthesis, how to create your first song, and how to turn that into something you can share. It's a fantastic way to bring out emotions, find inner peace, and share the joy of music.

Hear the Earth is a program designed to get people outside and listen to the world around them. So often we rush through our days without ever stopping, taking a breath, and truly listening to the vibrations that surround us. Equipped with a field recorder (basically a portable microphone), program attendees will learn the basics of field recording while simultaneously learning how to focus attention on the sounds that otherwise never get noticed. The sound of their shoes on different surfaces, the way wind moves through trees, and the deeper sounds of nature that often go unheard. We then take those found sounds and bring them back to the recording studio and make truly unique electronic music with the recordings. Ever wanted to create a drum set entirely from the sounds of wood, rocks, and grass that you recorded yourself?

How You Can Support

As we begin this mission, the biggest support we can get is outreach. Tell a friend, reach out to a teacher, or talk to a coworker. Once we begin to get ears turned our direction I know the rest will follow. If you are reading this newsletter, then you are already directly supporting this mission and I thank you for that. I feel the community today needs new paths to find inner calm and new ways to spread that inner calm to others. If you know of anyone else who may be interested in this mission please send them this newsletter, and let's grow this community together!

Thank you again for your time and your interest in helping Ambient Grounds grow. This mission doesn't lift off without you.

Philip Smith
Founder and Executive Director of Ambient Grounds

Tune in, reach out.