At the beginning of Shelter in Place, I was all about the stay home activities – puzzling, baking, tie dying, virtual game nights, etc. Especially in our industry, empty calendars with weekends at home were a rarity so it felt like an extended rainy day or a staycation of sorts. Don’t get me wrong, it was coupled with lots of anxiety and uncertainty, but there was also a novelty about it. There was an opportunity to be creative in how to spend this expanded home time with crafts, forgotten projects and home improvements. But then the zoom fatigue set in, the projects got checked off the list, and I found myself considerably less excited to start another jigsaw puzzle.

Well with SIP almost sure to go through the end of 2020, I’m committing to embracing this slower paced year and renewing that original enthusiasm for productive yet fun ways to fill the time. Here’s a start:

- Fortunately, our awesome members have not slowed down on bringing us original and inventive new services to make the most of this year! Paula LeDuc and GotLight have teamed up to provide an incredible experience with their Dinner & A Movie series. The elevated drive-in movies take place every Thursday, Friday & Saturday through the end
of October. I’ve attended and it felt great to be out at an event with those special PLD touches and delicious food, all from the comfort of my car!

- Entire has continued to entertain us all at home with their monthly EntireVariety show. The next show is coming to you on Zoom on September 24th and includes a birthday celebration for Claude (Cal Academy’s iconic albino alligator) and a feature on Oakland-based Hella Coastal Brewery.

- If you’ve been dining out more recently or are ready to start, check out this complete guide on how to navigate the safety and ethics of eating out during the pandemic. The featured articles include tips on how to host a small gathering, outdoor dining safety and commentary on tipping practices during this time. Plus there is an awesome round up of restaurants that have prime picnic offerings right now!

- Bay to Breakers 2020 has not been cancelled – it is going virtual! Dust off that costume and run through the streets like everyone is watching to keep this San Francisco tradition alive!

- Last but incredibly important right now, I want to acknowledge the destructive wildfires that are burning throughout the West Coast. We are sending our thoughts to everyone affected and we are so grateful to the fire fighters navigating these horrific blazes during a pandemic. There are many ways to support the cause but please remember that the SEARCH Foundation is available for those who need help or if you’d like to direct your aid to our industry colleagues during these difficult times.

Thank you for continuing to be a part of the ILEA community during these crazy times. If you have something to share, send it to us at togetherweekly@ileancc.org.

Growing Together While Apart,
Kelsey Linden, Board of Directors