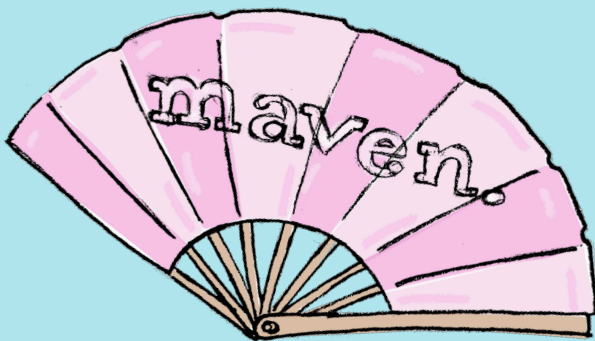


# COMMUNION

MAVEN LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE 2025 IMPACT REPORT



## CHAPTER 4. ESSAY 1

### How Good It Can Be

---

**Sara Gedeon** (she/her)

Social Impact Executive

**Corey Davis** (he|they)

Culture Shift Strategist & Creative Producer

**Maven Arsimmer McCoy** (she/her)

Multidisciplinary Artist

**Maven Kunya Rowley** (he|they).

Founder & Artistic Director

---

**maven.**

Maven Leadership Collective

How Good It Can Be  
Maven Arsimmer McCoy  
Maven Kunya Rowley  
Sara Gedeon  
Corey Davis  
COMMUNION 2025 Maven Impact Report  
Chapter 4 | Essay 1

Maven Arsimmer McCoy ([00:02](#)):

Your vocal cords, like the threading of your vocal chords. Anything that don't sound like the striking red sternum and jade of the ... Sorry. Give me one second. The striking red ... Damn. The striking red sternum and Jade rooster. The striking red sternum and Jay rooster. One more time. Got it.

Maven Kunya Rowley ([00:25](#)):

It's very rare that we focus on the process of doing the thing. We are always just trying to get through the thing, especially as a producer with a little money. We are always just trying to get through the thing, get the thing accomplished, get the grant done, do the thing to move on.

Corey Davis ([00:42](#)):

What would it be like to model a space where people could just follow the thread of an idea wherever it took them and that whatever the outcome would be, we'd be okay with it. Artists provide us with a gift because of the iterative nature of their work. So if we were all a little bit more comfortable with saying, "This can be perfected. This is the first step, but we will polish, we'll refine, we'll make it better." I think we all could learn something, whatever it is that we do.

Sara Gedeon ([01:33](#)):

I was coming in with deer in the headlights like, "What do we got to do? We got to do this thing. What does it mean? Okay." But then my mind was blown when we were going through our conversations. I was like, "Whoa, I think this is what I've needed from day one." With an organization like ours that functions a lot like a startup, impact measurement gives me a really good grounding tool and a really good starting place. Actionable steps on how we can proceed has been so important to me and definitely for our organization as well. How do we come to a place where we're like, "Okay, this is our current situation. It's not working and we

want to know how we can make it better so that we can get a better understanding of what our impact really is, whether it be on our organization or on the community members that we serve." Building capacity and building, I think a culture around it makes it more sustainable.

Sara Gedeon ([02:26](#)):

If we have that built in within our day-to-day, it just becomes our process. That is our process. I know that I'm going to take this wherever I end up, wherever I go. I've been sharing it with our partner organizations as well and seeing how we can not only do it for us, but to make sure the people that we're in community with have it too. Like that's community. That's the point of it. Can't say enough about Maven and Corey's guidance.

Corey Davis ([02:55](#)):

I wanted to be able to model that behavior, encourage it, and hopefully get other people to believe that that is the way forward and that folks will replicate spaces for thought, creativity, collaboration, community building, belonging in similar ways.

Maven Arsimmer McCoy ([03:35](#)):

One more time. This is it. Every morning, you must give reverence to all the gardens. To the consistent gardeners, working for themselves and others, give thanks to the gardens that begot other gardens. They too trusted the spell of thought. How it can toss up dirt and maggots to reveal sunflowers. Your belief system should be based in grit, grace, and audacity. That's how gardens grow through harsh seasons and can still garner summer fruits. Repeat the spell until the first pepper leaf blooms. Until that day, remember, it is already done. The spell of your thoughts has already made it so.