Maxwell Cantlin Portland

I am a live long musician with a Bachelors Degree in Music Performance and employed full-time performing music. Like everyone, the pandemic affected me. My work at first was fully stopped and because no venues were open, I had no work. I have had some work through last summer and teaching online but not even close to the work I normally have. I am lucky my wife's profession was not as impacted. We have a house in Portland with a 4 year old son. I have devoted myself to music for as long as I can remember and the pandemic has been an existential challenge to say the least. Not just the work piece but learning about my worth and value outside of music and working. Things will be opening up slowly as expected but it is impossible to know when someone like me will be able to depend on the income I had before. I am one of the lucky ones, I feel for those who have been hit harder. There are a whole population that has been economically displaced and we need support to actualize the value we all feel from music and arts. The value that is almost forgotten at times because of it is taken for granted in the background at work or in a store; other times it is a release for us in times of stress. Thank you for your help in these times and the best of luck to you.