



North Dakota Council on the Arts Stakeholder Engagement Report

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Overview

Creation In Common has been engaged by the North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA) to reach external stakeholders through community gatherings across the state and through an electronic survey.

Methodology

A total of six community gatherings were conducted from March 1 - 4, 2016. Each gathering was well attended with a total of 97 individuals (see Figure 1). In addition, a survey was conducted to capture a wider variety of voices as part of this engagement process. The survey was open from March 7 to March 25, 2016 and received a total of 125 respondents (see Figure 1). Invitations to community members for the gatherings were sent through the NDCA contact lists, social media, as well as through local connections with artists, arts organizations, and community leaders. Publicity for the survey was disseminated similarly.

Figure 1: Total Number of External Stakeholder Participants						
Site	Dickenson	Fargo	Fargo (New Americans/Immigrants/ Refugees)	Minot	Rugby	Turtle Mountain
Attendance	8	19	12	20	18	20
Number of Survey Participants: 125						
TOTAL NUMBER OF EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPANTS: 222						

The community gatherings were chosen based on a sample size of various communities across the state of North Dakota. Geographic location was taken into consideration, but it was not the intention to reach every single region of the state, rather instead to get a snapshot of the types of communities that exist in the North Dakota’s arts landscape. Targeted participants were identified to get a holistic perspective from the community (see Figure 2). Special considerations were given to locations to ensure that the variety of voices that reside throughout the state were given the opportunity to participate in a community gathering.

Creation In Common’s director of research, Anne Preston, led each group through a series of conversations and activities. This format was used for all focus groups with the

exception of the community gatherings at Turtle Mountain Reservation and in Fargo for new Americans/immigrants/refugees which included only conversations.

Figure 2: Targeted Audiences for Community Gatherings		
City	Community Focus	Targeted Participants
Dickenson	Small Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts/Heritage/Cultural leaders • Individual artists • Arts education leaders • Volunteers • Civic leaders • Economic development leaders • Health and wellness leaders • City government leaders
Fargo	Large Community	
Minot	Mid-sized Community	
Fargo	Access and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Americans • Immigrants • Refugees
Rugby	Regional collaboration and connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual artists • Arts education providers • Arts organizations from the region
Turtle Mountain	Access and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of individuals who live/work on the Reservation who participate and lead in arts and cultural activities • Community members from the Reservation • Community members who are connected to the Reservation

Acknowledgements

Creation In Common would like to thank and acknowledge the work of the community source site coordinators for each gathering:

Dickinson

Josh Nichols Executive Director, Arts ND

Fargo

Dayna Del Val The Arts Partnership
Dawn Morgan The Spirit Room
Alexandre Cyusa Ntwali
Fowzia Adde Immigrant Development Center
Kevin Brooks English Department, North Dakota State University

Minot

Terri Aldrich Minot Area Council of the Arts
Nancy Walter Taube Museum of Art

Rugby

Bonnie Berginski Village Arts (Rugby)
Carla Gemmill Langdon Arts (Langdon)
Lisa Schuler North Dakota Music Teachers Association (Langdon)
Kim Hatten Arts Council of the Lake Region (Devil's Lake)
Lee Hagen Maddock Opera House (Maddock)
Jennifer Parker Nelson County Arts Council (Pekin)
Deb Belquist Dakota Prairie Regional Center for the Arts (New Rockford)
Roberta Mundahl (Cando)

Turtle Mountain

Joseph Marion Turtle Mountain Tribal Arts Association
Memory Poni-Cappo Turtle Mountain Tribal Arts Association

In addition, we wish to thank Beth Klingenstein for her travel companionship and support during the community gatherings and the efforts from the NDCA staff and board with their help promoting the survey, gatherings, and attending when possible.

Key Findings

Need for Additional Funding

From the community gatherings and the survey results it is clear that one of the largest needs identified is an increase in financial support from the legislature and local communities.

Statewide

General Operations

According to the survey 69% of respondents cited the need for more general operating.

Space

Across all communities (large, mid-size, and small) participants from the gatherings spoke to the need for space to accommodate larger audiences. Survey respondents rated space as the third highest priority overall (27% of respondents). The community gathering participants also spoke to needs for accessible space, affordable studio space for individual artists and space that could provide a centralized place for arts activities (performance, classes etc.).

Training and Capacity Building

The community gatherings revealed that training and building organizational capacity was very important, but funding prohibited the ability to engage in the type of support needed. Survey respondents (20%) also identified the same need as necessary to increase the capacity of individual artist careers or moving arts organizations to the next level.

Local

Promotion

Support for the promotion of events was expressed in every community gathering and rated the second most important need for survey respondents (41%).

Participants from all of the gatherings called for specific help for funding around promotion: 1) Create print materials (flyers/brochures/newsletters, advertising, etc.) to reach and expand their target audiences; 2) Support in skill building (e.g. helping them connect to the media) and creating a media plan; and 3) Having

additional resources to help facilitate collaboration with others and collectively promote their individual art or organization's offerings and events.

Localized Community Support

In the community gatherings, many participants spoke to the need to strengthen and build more relationships within their communities, building both local funding capacity, and support. Gathering participants cited this as especially challenging in smaller communities where local businesses are fewer and are continually asked for their support over and over.

Need for Promotion, Awareness, and Visibility

Through both the community gatherings and the survey, it was clear that promotion is vital to increasing the visibility and awareness of what the arts have to offer across North Dakota.

Promotion

Engaging with Target Audiences and Building New Audiences

66% of survey respondents felt that "creating strategies for promoting arts activities and building more arts participation" as the second most important activity after the need for more funding. Additionally, "connecting my art with the greater community" was the top need for individual artists (67%). Gathering participants also spoke to not knowing exactly how to connect to expand their participation both with existing community members as well as reaching those that may be new to the community. Some gathering participants expressed success with cross promotion between artists and arts organizations. However, they also commented that the absence of a system and extra time to coordinate the effort were most often a barrier to following through.

Connecting with Media

In all of the six community gatherings, knowing how to get connected with print/online media sources was a barrier in promoting events both locally and statewide. Gathering participants spoke to time, financial support, and needing more skills as other barriers. Many of them shared their desire to develop an online presence through websites, and social media platforms, as these are often pushed aside due to other day-to-day operations that have a higher priority.

Visibility and Awareness

Understanding of the Benefits and Value of the Arts

Community gathering participants and survey respondents overwhelmingly expressed the importance of creating more opportunities statewide to broaden and deepen understanding of the benefits and value the arts generate for communities. A little over half of the survey respondents felt that “providing support in their ability to share their story and impact that they create in the community” could also make a huge difference in bridging this gap.

Knowledge of Arts Activities Both Statewide and Locally

Several community gathering participants spoke to the lack of awareness of both who is creating and where arts activities are taking place throughout the state. They expressed that identifying ways to disseminate this information is crucial to show the breadth and depth of arts activities across the state. Additionally, NDCA board and staff members, as well as gathering participants, agreed that a need for a generally accepted centralized place and mechanism to share stories and events are necessary to facilitate awareness and visibility. Though NDCA has promoted using the North Dakota Tourist website as a solution, many community members pushed back that this adds another item to their responsibilities.

Sharing Cultural Heritage

Participants from the community gatherings spoke to the need to have more exposure and exchange of cultural heritage. One Native American participant emphasized that it is important for there to be an exchange both ways. Integration to create more diverse offerings and exposure to all was a very important point raised in the gatherings. Creating awareness of what exists and knowing how to build relationships with new or lesser known cultures often posed the greatest barrier. This was not only expressed in regards to communities with large populations of new Americans, it was also discussed with communities that are adjacent to Native American reservations.

Priorities

Value, Effectiveness, and Impact

Survey participants were asked to rank the top priorities NDCA should focus on for the next three to five years (see Figure 3). 66% of survey respondents ranked, “fostering and supporting cultural engagement opportunities and awareness” as the highest priority. Currently, 63% of respondents also felt that NDCA was most effective in this area. Additionally, community gathering participants felt it was crucial to offer financial support and resources for the arts and also rated it as a high priority. Lastly, complementing the abilities to learn other subjects, many community gathering participants spoke to retaining and recruiting talent in their communities.

Figure 3: Top Priorities for NDCA

1. Fostering and supporting cultural engagement opportunities and awareness (66%)
2. Furthering 21st century teaching and lifelong learning through the arts (38%)
3. Cultivating artistic development and encouraging creative exploration (34%)
4. Supporting the preservation of cultural heritage and traditional practices (32%)

Grant Programs

Survey participants were specifically asked to identify which grant programs had the most impact on their individual/organization as well as for the state as a whole (see Figure 4). The Community Arts Access Grant was rated as being the most important for advancing individuals, organizations, and statewide impact.

Figure 4: Highest Ranked Priorities by Grant Program

	Advancing the Individual/Organization	Advancing a health arts and cultural environment in North Dakota
U r v e y p a r	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Arts Access Grant (83%) 2. Professional Development Grant (80%) 3. Special Projects Grant (76%) 4. Institutional Support Grant (73%) Presenter Support Grant (73%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Arts Access Grant (96%) 2. Artists-in-Residence Grant (93%) 3. Folk & Traditional Arts - Apprenticeship Grant (92%) 4. Special Projects Grant (91%) Institutional Support Grant (91%) Presenter Support (91%)

Participants also ranked the following grant programs as having the lowest impact for advancing the individual/organizations and impacting the state overall: Steam Team Grants, Individual Artist Fellowships, and Teacher Incentive Grants (see Figure 5).

<i>Figure 5: Lowest Ranked Priorities by Grant Program</i>	
Advancing the Individual/Organization	Advancing a health arts and cultural environment in North Dakota
Steam Team Grant (53%) Individual Artists Fellowship (60%) Teacher Incentive Grants (61%)	Steam Team Grant (79%) Individual Artist Fellowship (87%) Teacher Incentive Grants (88%)

Advocacy

Community gathering participants cited advocacy to gain more funding at the state level as one of the top priorities that NDCA should focus on in the next three to five years. As a part of this priority, participants want to be engaged in public meetings and workshops to support the efforts in their own regions. Survey participants specifically spoke to needing more education around activities and coordinated efforts around advocacy.

Support Development of Careers for Artists and Capacity for Organizations

Both individual artists and arts organizations in the community gatherings spoke to more professional development and capacity building resources as a top priority.

Professional Development

Community gatherings gleaned that both individual artists and arts organizations felt that they needed the extra boost of funding to increase their knowledge and skills to bring their career or organizations to the next level. Over half (58%) of the survey respondents cited that, “increasing capacity that will advance my work or my organization’s work” was a high priority. Both groups expressed gaining this knowledge through workshops, webinars, outside learning resources, and peer-to-peer learning or mentoring. It should be noted that survey respondents ranked the current Professional Development grant second highest (80%) in aiding and advancing their efforts and impact.

Networking and Learning From Peers

About two-thirds (63%) of survey respondents felt that “learning from and networking with peers” was important. Participants cited the value of sharing accomplishments and activities with individuals or groups in the same city or region. Individual artists valued connecting with other artists across the state to have a digital community, as depending on where they are located, they may be more isolated in some parts of the state than others. Peer-to-peer interactions and mentoring opportunities (smaller organizations with larger organizations and younger organizations with more established organizations) was also mentioned often at the community gatherings and in the survey. Survey respondents felt strongly that holding regular public meetings or forums could help engage and connect peer individual artists and organizations. Gathering participants identified these meetings could also aid in strategizing and solving challenges with the input and experiences of others.

Additional Findings

Inclusivity and Connection to the Larger Community

From the community gatherings with new Americans, the largest barrier was knowing how to access the information about the opportunities that are available to them. Non-arts organizations that provide information and services to new populations may be a conduit for helping to disseminate information about the arts. It was also clear that many non-white individual artists expressed similar needs; needs in looking for spaces to work and perform, as well as promote and sell their work.

Lack of Arts Resources in K-12 Schools Create Gaps

All of the community gathering participants commented on the severe depletion of funding for arts in schools. Participants spoke to exposing children early to instill an appreciation and desire for continued exploration, while also citing what the added benefits can do for developing overall learning skills. Understanding the interests, what motivates them to want to engage, and removing other barriers were identified as key to increasing participation. Lastly, participants reflected on the need for developing life-long relationships to help sustain arts in their communities for the future.

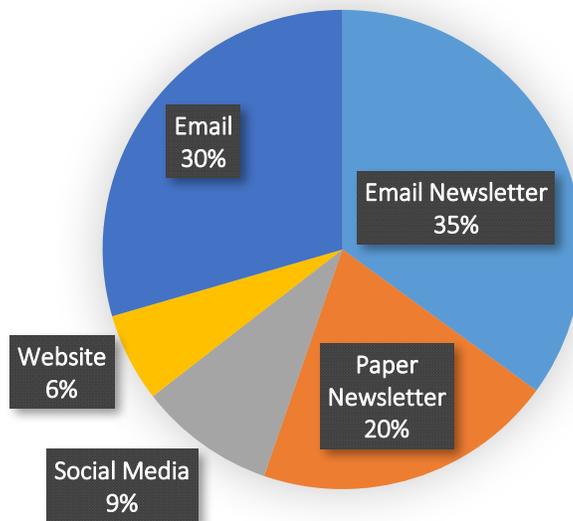
Grantmaking Effectiveness

59% of survey respondents felt that the value was worth the effort of applying for a NDCA grant. With just more than half feeling this way, the need to review the grants process and programs may be necessary.

Ways That People Want to Connect

In the survey, respondents were asked their preference in delivery of information from NDCA (see Figure 6). Survey respondents reported that they have preference to electronic communications with NDCA. Additionally, over 50% of respondents prefer the newsletter as their way to get information from NDCA.

Figure 6: Preferred Way to Receive Information from NDCA



Themes from the Gatherings

The following pages include the major themes gleaned from all of the ideas generated from each of the community gatherings.

Needs

Across the State

Advocacy for more funding
Awareness of the arts
Value of arts in schools
Understanding of arts/benefits of arts
More incentives for the arts
Funding for arts and infrastructure
Recruitment/Retention of talent
Participation from everyone
People to do the work
Promotion about the arts
Resources (knowledge, skill, etc.)

Bridging State and Local:

Affordable arts touring that can travel
between towns
Collaboration with state and local
entities
Communication between state and local
and within community
Connections
More Cultural events/ cultural heritage:
- Exchange, exposure, and historical
knowledge and stories of culture
throughout the state

Local

Accessibility

Activities for all ages

- Engaging younger people
- Family friendly activities
- Intergenerational arts activities

Infrastructure

- Space and facilities
- Green spaces and places for public gathering
- Affordable housing
- Better paying jobs/workforce needs
- Bicycle paths/lanes
- Better walking conditions (cleared sidewalks and paths)
- Revitalizations of downtown areas

Integration of communities - new populations and

Identity as a community

Growth in the community

How do the Arts Help Meet These Needs?

Awareness

- Larger awareness of what arts and culture

Community

- Building community
- Offers different viewpoints
- Exploring and sharing cultures, history, and values
- Provides support
- Entertainment

Education

- Enhances learning

Funding

- Adds to economic development

Inclusion

Opportunities

- For creativity
- For artists, especially in small towns
- Enriching lives of families

Economic vehicle (for individual artists, arts organizations, communities)

Participation

- Reawakening of interest to arts and culture
- Engagement with various arts activities
- Create excitement
- Activities, classes, etc.

Partnerships

Support

Talent acquisition/retention - is a powerful recruiting tool

Value

- Active and passionate community
- Help discover meaning
- Make a better place to live
- Beautification
- Enrich culture
- Expands social and psychological resilience
- Focal point for apathy
- Reflects and portrays life in ND
- Brings together diverse people

What are the Barriers to Engaging with the Arts?

Access/Accessibility

Advocacy - voice for the arts

Attitude

- Elitism
- Indifference
- Isolation
- stigma
- Arts are not for everyone

Awareness

Base of support

- Not enough audiences are attending
- Understanding what young people want

Commitment

Distance

- Transportation

Economics

- Child car
- Low pay for artists
- Membership dues
- Need for

tools/instruments/supplies

Lack of exposure

Fear

Funding

Interest

Money

Oversaturation

Partnerships

Personality disagreements

Promotion and Marketing

- Awareness of activities
- Clear media presence to provide info on and process
- Lack of online presence
- Not knowing how to connect
- Reaching and marketing to

correct

segment of the community

Self confidence for artists

Skill/Resources – lack of technical support

Socializing has changed

Space

- Affordable space
- Need for more facilities

Time

- Busy schedules
- Arts get left behind with so many choices

Understanding

- Misunderstandings about the Arts
- Unfamiliar background with the arts - “arts are not for me”

Value/Benefits

- Arts are a thrill
- Lack of perceived value
- Perceptions “too expensive”
- Do not see economic impact
- Perception that it is something to do for fun and not a career

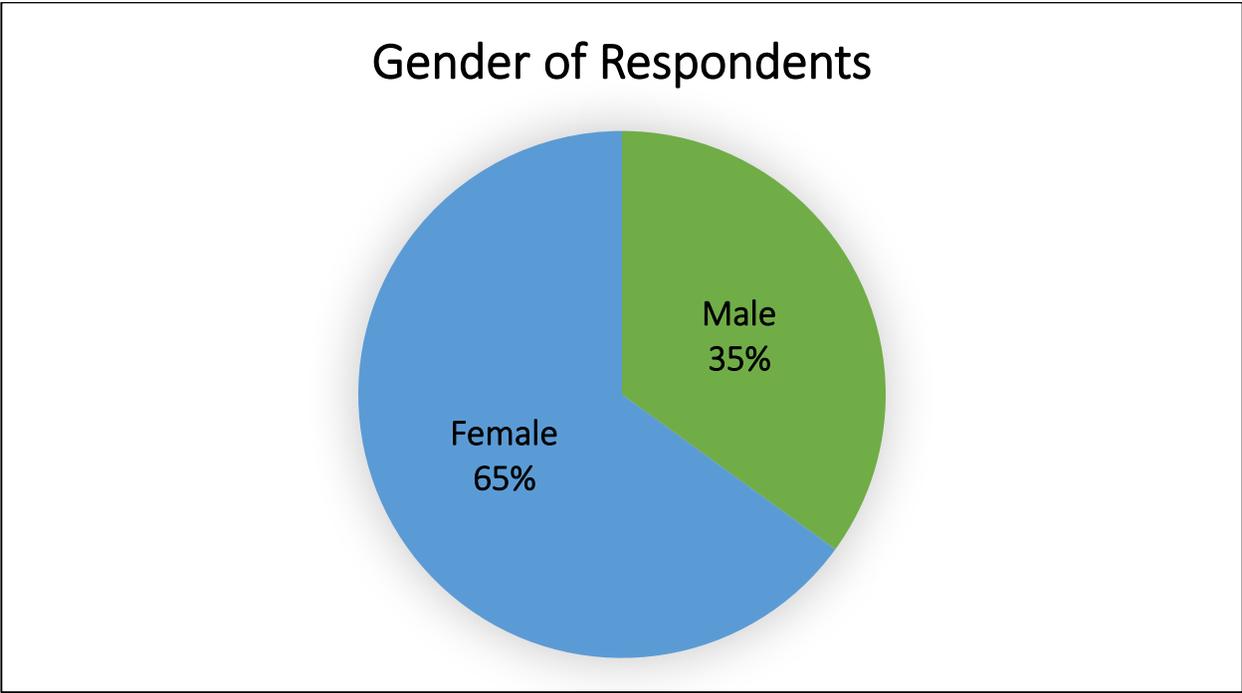
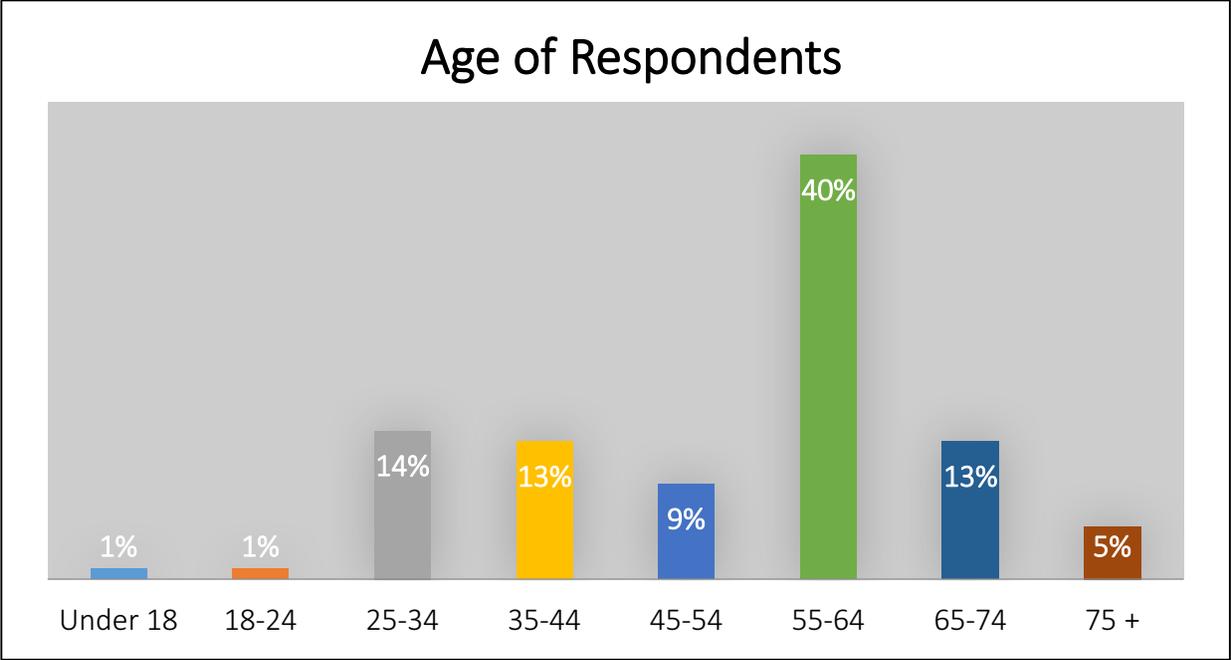
Weather

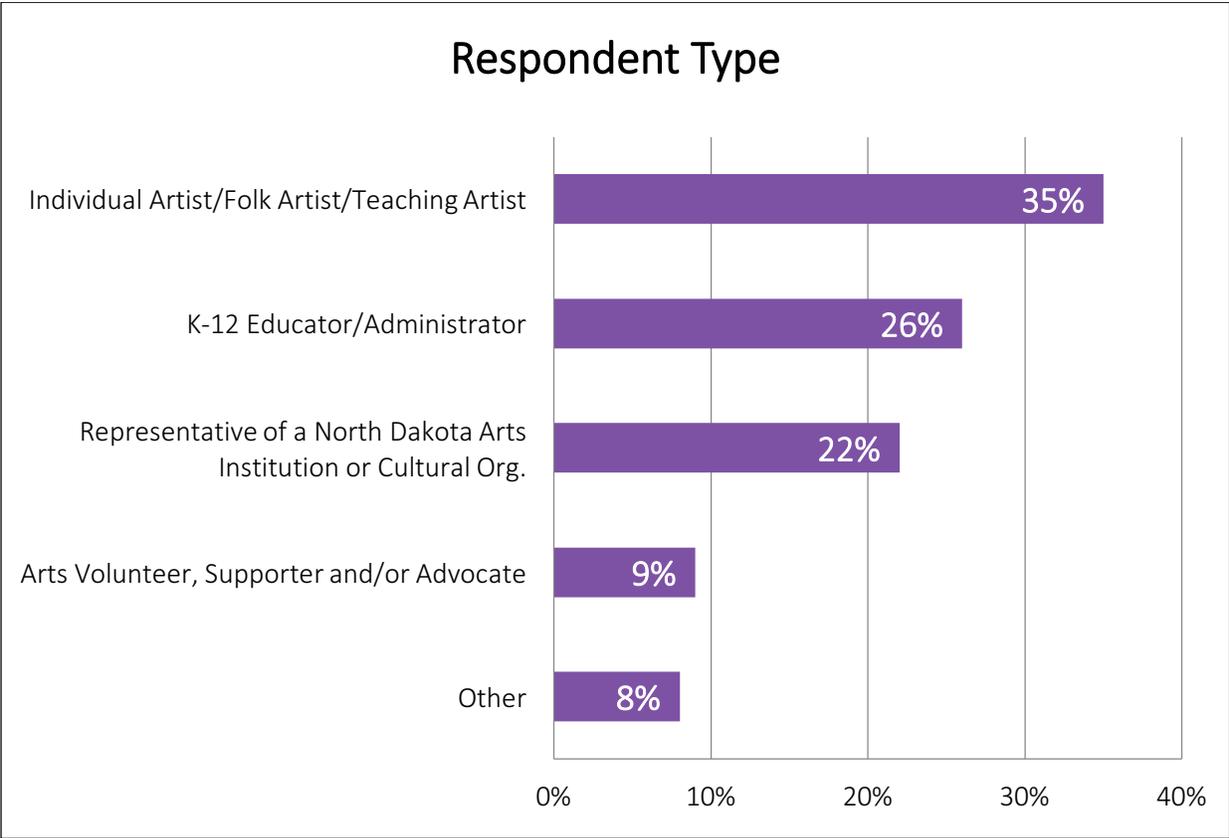
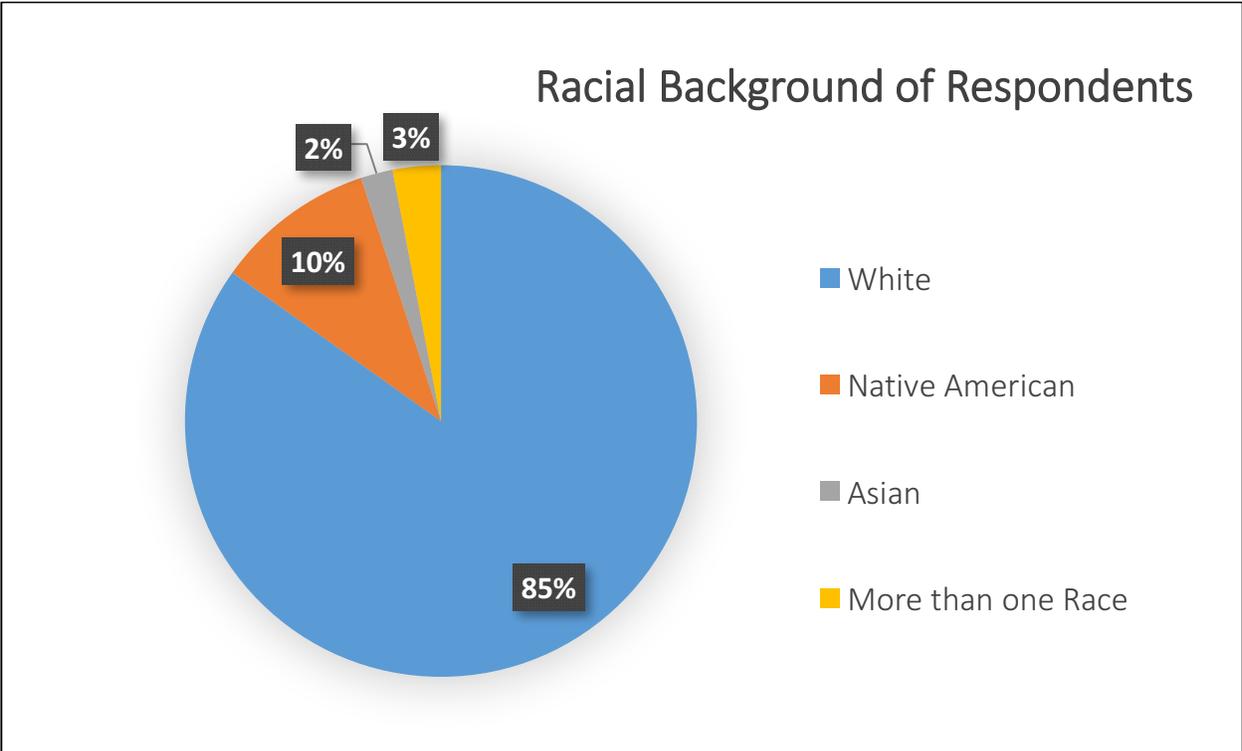
What do artists, arts educators, and arts organization's need in order to overcome these barriers?

Arts in Schools	- Bigger audiences
Attitude	- Community support through
Capacity	funding and attendance
Collaboration	- Attracting younger supporters
Commitment	- Providing lessons or open to
Communication	anyone
Community	Partnerships
Data/Info – deeper understanding of the	Promotion
actual barriers	- Communications
Education	- funding
Encouragement	Public Forums
Engagement	Resources/Capacity building
Exposure	Space
Financial Independence	- Affordable studios for artists
Forums	- Accessible attractive venues
Funding	- Performance space
- More support from local, regional,	- Classrooms
and state sources	Sponsorships
Infrastructure	Supplies
- Paid positions	Support
- Arts center	Time
Involvement	Value
- Participating in local planning	- Higher profile in the community
discussions	- Support and value
Money	- Arts as well as athletes
Networking	Volunteers
Participation	

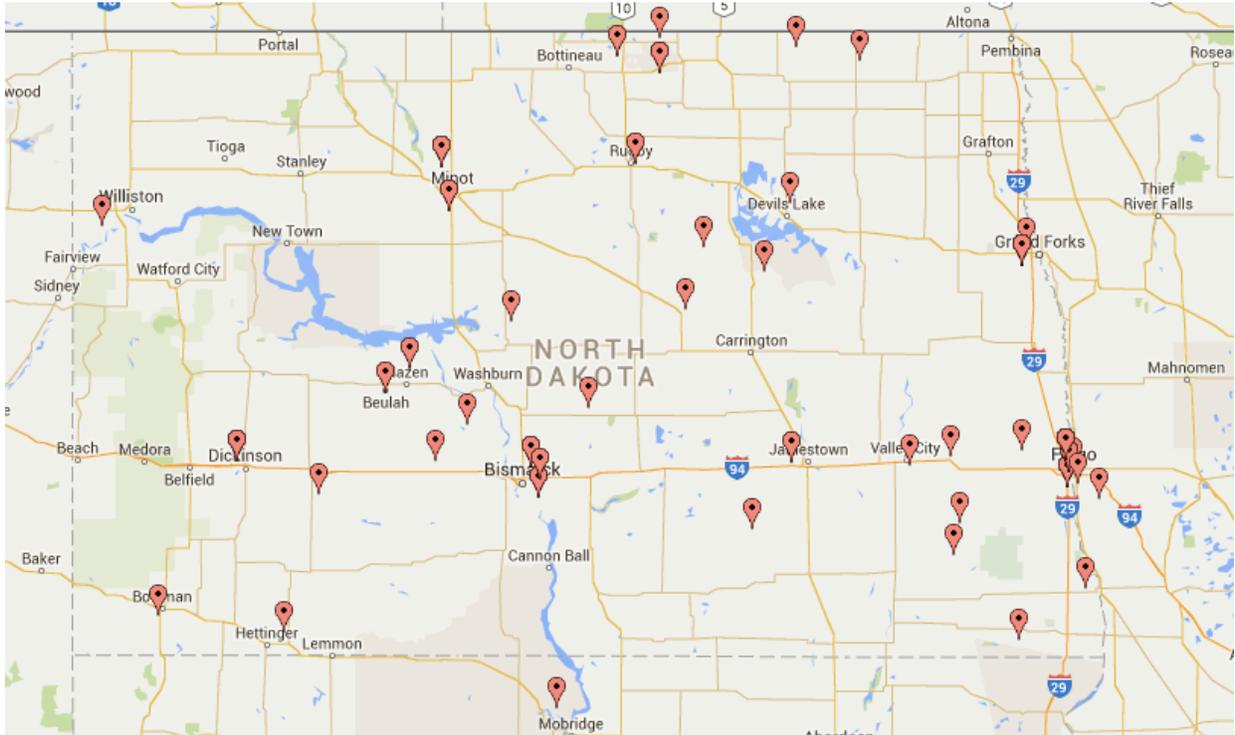
Survey Summary

Demographics

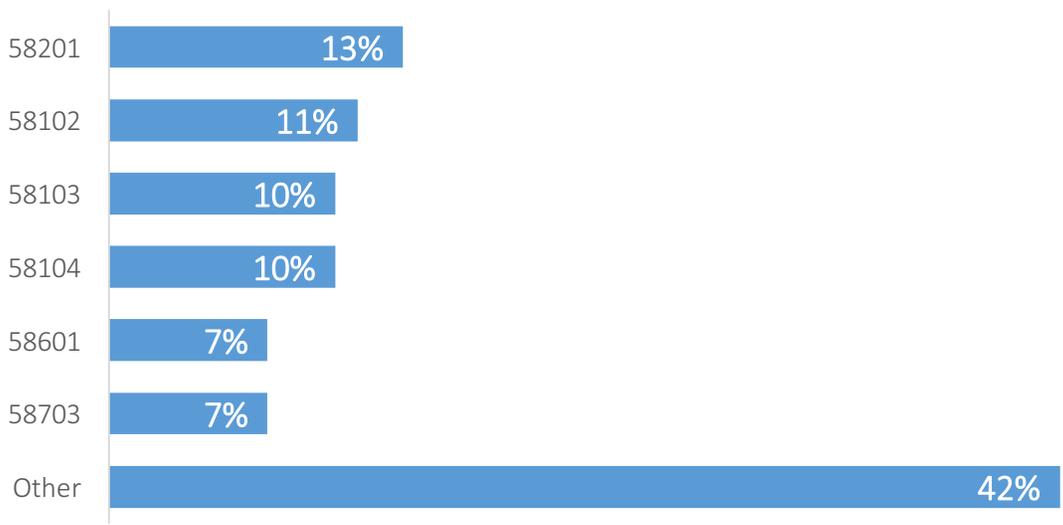




Respondents Mapped by Zip Code



Top Six Respondent Zip Codes



What are the top three needs that you have as an artist, arts educator, or organizational representative to advance your work, activities and impact? (116 out of 125)

- **69% of respondents** say they have a need for more grants/funding/equipment materials/funds for general operations.
- **41% of respondents** say their need is in sales promotion /publicity.
- **27% of respondents** say they have a need for exhibition/gallery/performance/practice/storage space.
- **23% of respondents** say their need is in educational advocacy and funding.
- **22% of respondents** say they need more support in creating opportunities for connections to other artists, agencies (including NDCA), communities and events.
- **20% of respondents** say they have a need from supplemental arts specific professional development and training.
- **20% of respondents** say they are in need of more time
- **19% of respondents** say they would like more localized community support and engagement.
- **10% of respondents** say they need more administrative and resource support.
- **3.5% of respondents** say they need more audience participation.
- **3.5% of respondents** say advocacy/grassroots efforts are needed to help legislators understand importance of the arts in ND.
- **2% of respondents** say they want to see indigenous people's perspective clearly represented
- **2% of respondents** say they need assistance in determining the art need of community.
- **1% of respondents** say they would like more access to national funding.
- **1% of respondents** say they need assistance in keeping committee members interested and active.
- **1% of respondents** say they would like to continue to monitor arts presentations around the state for quality.
- **1% of respondents** say they would like easier grant applications.

In Addition to financial support, what other types of assistance do you need to advance your activities and engagement with the arts? (124 out of 125)

- **68% of respondents** would like assistance in connecting with or promoting their art within the greater community.
- **66% of respondents** would like additional assistance in creating strategies for promoting arts activities and help creating more arts participation.
- **62% of respondents** would like more learning and networking with peers is a need to advance activities and engagement with the arts.
- **59% of respondents** would like assistance with increasing capacity to advance their work or their organization's work.
- **58% of respondents** would like assistance in building partnerships.
- **53% of respondents** would like assistance in sharing the story and impact of their art or organization.

- **39% of respondents** would like assistance with supporting the preservation of cultural heritage and traditional art practices.
- **38% of respondents** would like assistance with obtaining measurable evidence of the arts in their community is a need.
- **35% of respondents** would like assistance in promoting equity and inclusion.

Please identify any additional needs not listed above: (15 out of 125)

- **27% of respondents** rated funding for artist workshops/conferences/continuing education important, and would like more opportunities to do so.
- **13% of respondents** rated ND legislature needs to advocate for arts and arts education in schools.
- **13% of respondents** rated the need for more community art centers or performing art centers in their communities.
- **13% of respondents** rated the need to be more equity and inclusion, native tradition and craft.
- **7% of respondents** rated the need for an annual summer arts conference to build advocacy, connect and share ideas.
- **7% of respondents** rated the need to find artists for educational or volunteer purposes.
- **7% of respondents** rated the need for more positive involvement from those who are not employed in the arts community.
- **7% of respondents** rated that there is a lack of community support.
- **7% of respondents** rated the need for more continuing education, mentoring or workshops opportunities with other artists.

Please rate NDCA's overall effectiveness in the following areas: (115 out of 125)

- **63% of respondents** feel the NDCA is effective or very effective in informing arts and cultural stakeholders about news and opportunities in the arts in ND.
- **61% of respondents** feel the NDCA is effective at encouraging arts engagement and advocacy in ND. 32% held no opinion – neither effective nor not effective.
- **57% of respondents** feel that NDCA has the ability to understand and support their artistic needs effectively, while 33% have no opinion of NDCA's effectiveness in this area.

How impactful has NDCA been in the following areas? (110 out to 125)

- **63% of respondents** believe the NDCA is impactful in fostering support and cultural engagement for all citizens.
- **61% of respondents** believe the NDCA is impactful in strengthening leadership and funding opportunities in the arts.
- **61% of respondents** believe the NDCA impactful in cultivating artistic development and fosters creative exploration.
- **58% of respondents** believe the NDCA is impactful in stimulating partnerships in the arts to enhance quality of life and promote economic development.

- **54% of respondents** believes the NDCA furthers 21st century teaching and lifelong learning by advancing the arts in all levels of education. 36% have no opinion – neither impactful nor not impactful.

Please rate your satisfaction for NDCA’s grant making process: (106 out of 125)

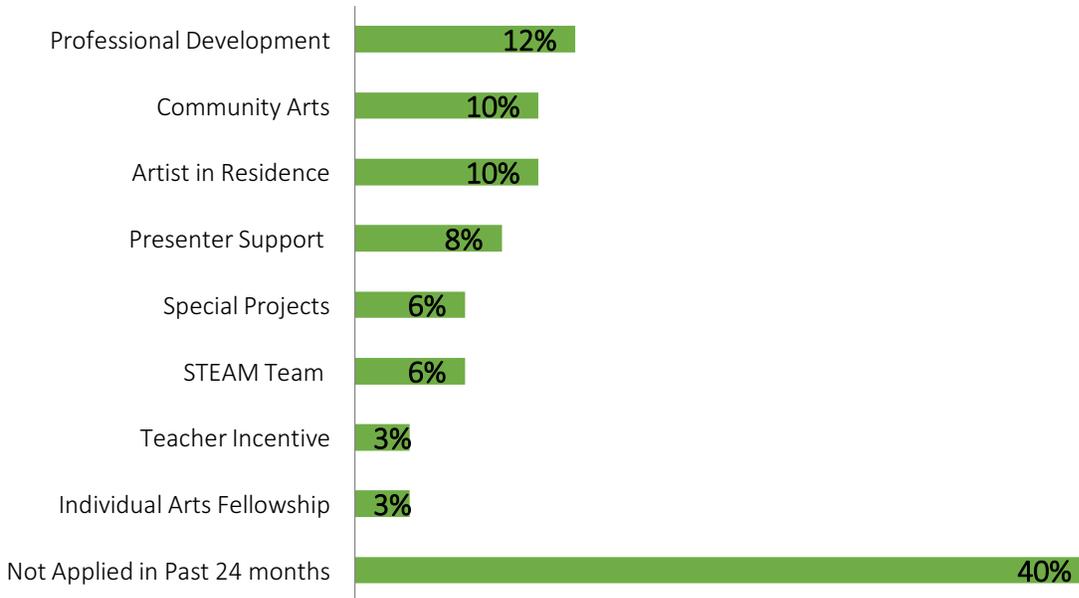
- **71% of respondents** are satisfied with NDCA ability to answer inquires and questions in a timely manner and find NDCA able to assist them when applying for one of their grants.
- **64% of respondents** are satisfied with the transparency conducted by the NDCA regarding their grants process.
- **61% of respondents** feel clear eligibility and guidelines are provided for these grants.
- **58% of respondents** are either satisfied or very satisfied with the value a NDCA grant and the effort it takes to apply.
- **56% of respondents** are satisfied with the information NDCA provides for available grants. 18% are not satisfied.
- **56% of respondents** are satisfied with with the technical support and transparency of the grants process provided by NDCA.

Additional Comments (39 out of 125)

- **18% of respondents** said there is a great amount of support from the NDCA website, staff and/or art councils.
- **18% of respondents** said they have never applied or are unaware of these grants
- **15% of respondents** said the website is hard to navigate. (Technologically challenged)
- **14% of respondents** said it would be nice to get alerts when grants become available or given advance notice.
- **10% of respondents** said the grant applications are too involved, and have unclear or redundant questions.
- **10% of respondents** said NDCA grants are too restrictive, or too complicated. There are complaints of how only non-profits of 3 years can apply, workshop teachers (non K-12) are disqualified from teaching grants, and that grants are too specific preventing certain artists from applying due to medium.
- **15%** Not relevant answers

Which NDCA grant programs have you or your organization applied for in the last 24 months?

Grant programs applied for in the past 24 months?



Please rate importance of each of these programs to advancing you and your organization's work:

(99 out of 125)

- 83% of respondents rate the Community Arts Access grant important. 10% remain neutral.
- 80% of respondents rate the Professional Development grant important. 12% remain neutral.
- 76% of respondents rate the Special Project grant important. 17% remain neutral.
- 73% of respondents rate the Institutional Support grant important. 16% remain neutral.
- 73% of respondents rate the Presenter Support grant important. 19% remain neutral.
- 66% of respondents rate the Artist-in Residences grant important. 21% remain neutral.
- 62% of respondents rate the Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship grant important. 22% remain neutral.
- 61% of respondents rate the Teacher Incentive grant important. 21% remain neutral.
- 60% of respondents rate the Individual Artist Fellowship important. 20% remain neutral.
- 53% of respondents rate the STEAM Team grant important. 23% remain neutral.

Why are these important to you and/or your organization? (54 out of 125)

- 35% Brings arts opportunities, awareness to communities

- **22%** Professional or Organizational Development
- **20%** Financially provides additional resources
- **5%** Fulfills an arts educational need within and outside of school
- **4%** Unaware of or have no time to complete a grant
- **14%** of remaining answers were unrelated

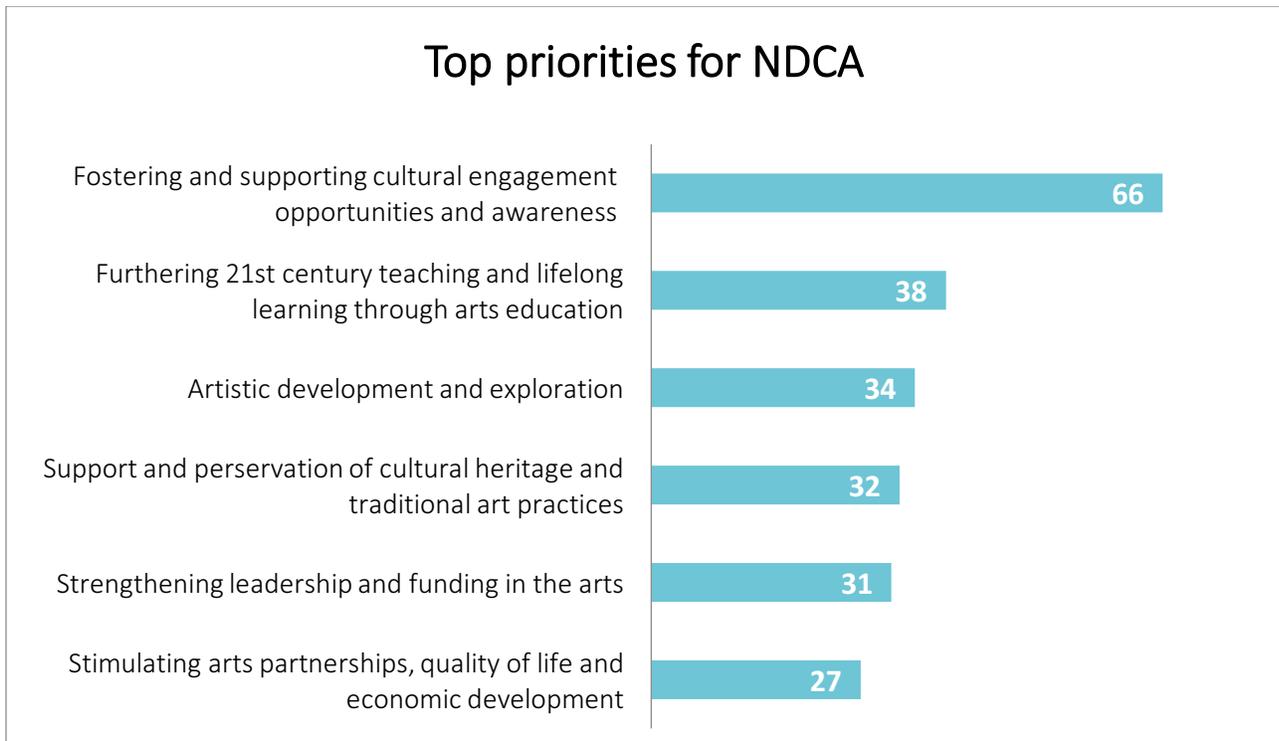
Please rate the importance of each of these programs to advancing a healthy arts and cultural environment in North Dakota: (96 out of 125)

- **96% of respondents** rate the Community Access Arts grant important to the arts and cultural environment of ND.
- **93% of respondents** rate the Artist-in-Residence very important or important to the arts and cultural environment of ND.
- **92% of respondents** rate the Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship important to the arts and cultural environment of ND.
- **91% of respondents** rate the Institutional Support grant important to the arts and cultural environment of ND.
- **91% of respondents** rate the Presenter Support grant important to the arts and culture of North Dakota.
- **91% of respondents** rate the Special Projects grant important to the arts and cultural environment of North Dakota.
- **90% of respondents** rate the Professional Development grant important to the arts and culture of North Dakota.
- **88% of respondents** rate the Teacher Incentive important for the arts and cultural environment of ND.
- **87% of respondents** rate the Individual Artist Fellowship important to the arts and cultural environment of ND.
- **79% of respondents** rate the STEAM TEAM grant very important or important to the arts and cultural environment of ND. 16% neutral.

Why are these important to North Dakota? (47 out of 125)

- **38%** - Because art is important to ND, its economy, its heritage and its quality of life
- **21%** - Because arts education is important in the community and in the schools
- **15%** - Programs build interest, participation and opportunity
- **6%** - Small Communities need arts support
- **5%** - Fill positions with qualified talent
- **15%** - No opinion/unrelated answer

Please rank the following areas in terms of what you think should be a NDCA top priorities:
(96 out of 125)



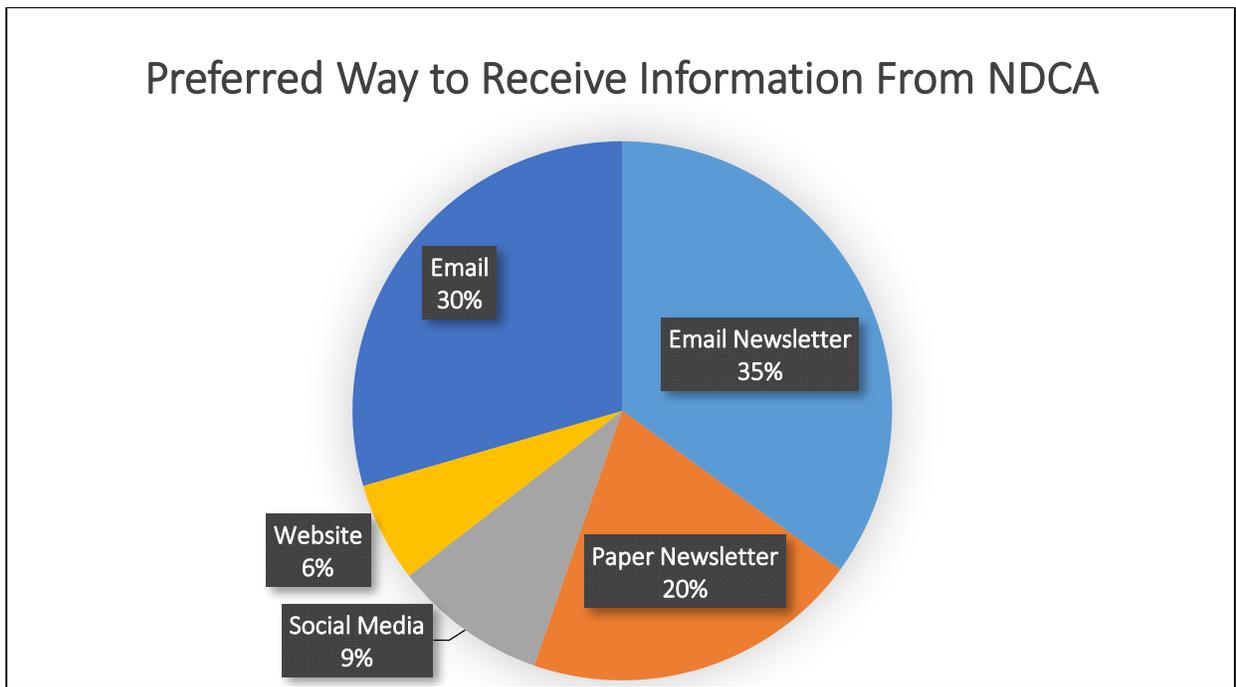
- **66% of respondents** feel fostering and supporting cultural engagement opportunities and awareness is a high priority. 14% rate it neutral.
- **38% of respondents** say furthering 21st century teaching and lifelong learning through the arts is a priority. 34% rate these as a mid-to-low priority.
- **34% of respondents** say cultivating artistic development and encouraging creative exploration was a top priority. 46% rate these as a mid-to-low priority.
- **32% of respondents** say supporting the preservation of cultural heritage and traditional practices is a high priority. 30% rate these as low on the list of NDCA priorities.
- **31% of respondents** feel strengthening leadership and funding in the arts is a priority. 27% give it a neutral rating.
- **27% of respondents** claim stimulating arts partnerships to enhance quality of life and promote economic development is a high priority. 46% rate this as a low priority.

Please finish the following sentence: In the next five years, “NDCA should work to achieve...”:
(55 out of 125)

- **40%** – Continue opportunities for ND to advance its arts and cultural programs in its communities and schools
- **20%** – Create a stronger network, and presence through out the state and legislator to increase funding

- 17% – Stimulate art partnerships to enhance quality of life and economic development for ND citizens
- 8.5% – Greater awareness and funding of Artist/Arts and what they have to offer in ND
- 2% – Independence from the ND legislature.
- 2% – Resources for rural communities
- 2% – Develop marketing opportunities
- 8.5% – Unrelated answer

Please rate your preference of the following ways for you to receive information from NDCA:
(97 out of 125)



Are there other ways you would prefer to receive information about NDCA? (27 out of 125)

- Through American Indian functions
- Personal letters with grant opportunities and information
- District Administration
- NDCA sending representatives to communities and sponsoring cultural events
- Text Messages
- Newspapers
- Artist get-togethers and public forums