

North Dakota's 2010 Arts Survey

**Report of the North Dakota Council on the Arts' 2010 Survey of Constituents
March 23, 2010**



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

DREESZEN & ASSOCIATES

2010

Report by Craig Dreeszen, Ph.D.

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Report of the North Dakota Council on the Arts

2010 Survey of Constituents

March 23, 2010

Executive Summary

Methods

The North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA) surveyed constituents' opinions to gather information for renewed strategic planning. The online survey complements a parallel series of focus forums around the state. The survey was launched February 9 and closed March 22, 2010. The invitation went to all 800 names on its constituents' email list that included artists, nonprofit cultural organization leaders, and educators. Survey invitations were also posted in newsletters and on the NDCA website. Over half of individuals receiving an invitation responded! Responses from 429 individuals represent a remarkable 54% return. While survey findings cannot be said to represent opinions of all North Dakotans, it is an excellent sampling of NDCA constituents. These results will be a good guide to planning and policy. Artists represent a significant proportion of the NDCA mailing list and accordingly are the largest group of survey respondents (a third of the sample).

Synopsis

North Dakota's artists, cultural leaders, and educators shared opinions and advice as their state arts council renews strategic planning. The top suggested priorities for the plan are arts education, funding, and advocacy. Survey respondents urged the North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA) to promote arts awareness and stress the arts' role in quality of life and economic development. The NDCA got consistently high ratings for services, online grants system, and website. Most survey respondents would support a new statewide arts advocacy organization.

Most artists sold regionally and reported their markets had remained steady or grown slightly. Most were confident. Artists reported increased earnings as their top priority followed closely by their need for more marketing and grants. About a quarter of North Dakota artists have no health insurance.

Most nonprofit cultural organizations reported their organizations were doing OK or were strong, though 12% were really struggling. Funding is their greatest need. About half of cultural leaders reported infrastructure needs. Cultural leaders expected to make their most progress in audience participation, financial stability, and arts programming. They expected funding to be their greatest challenge. They are also concerned about public awareness and support and growing and sustaining audiences.

Over half of survey respondents were dissatisfied with K-12 arts education and most believe that arts education is not equally accessible throughout North Dakota. Educators gave a slightly more optimistic

assessment, though their perceptions still were mostly negative. About half of educators believed students received regular arts instruction taught by specialists. Most students were thought to experience arts education less than once per week. Few believed that most students have arts in after-school programs.

Key Findings

Important NDCA priorities More than 90% of survey respondents thought the top three most important NDCA priorities were: arts education, funding for community arts organizations, and project funding support. Next most important were: statewide arts awareness campaigns, developing alternative funding strategies, and individual artist support. Most respondents also valued: increased access for underserved rural, elderly, and Native American populations and cultural tourism.

The majority also thought the balance of potential priorities were important: collaboration with other areas of state government, touring artist fee support, training assistance, and funding for larger arts institutions.

Importance of NDCA Services The survey asked constituents how important were NDCA services. For over 90% the two most important services were: promote arts awareness statewide and communicate the role arts play in quality of life and economic development. Nearly as important were NDCA services to provide information on request and maintain an updated web site. About three quarters of respondents thought it important to: promote cultural tourism, document impact of arts funding on North Dakotans and communities, provide on-site assistance for arts organizations, offer events listings on CulturePulse.org, provide the newsletter Prairie Arts, help link people through social media networking, and present workshops and conferences.

Most valued about NDCA An open ended question, “What do you most value about the North Dakota Council on the Arts?” generated overwhelming positive comments (219 positive remarks and one negative quip concerning use of technology). By far, most constituents value grant funding. Also highly valued are: information, advocacy, the responsive NDCA staff, and the NDCA leadership of the state arts community. Many valued networking connections with the state’s arts community and that the agency exists. Others appreciated help or training received. Some specifically valued the Council’s encouragement and support of the agency’s focus on folk arts and Native arts.

Suggested NDCA improvements Most often constituents suggested no changes or said, “Good job, keep up the good work.” Many wanted increased funding for the arts, increased NDCA visibility, and stronger advocacy. Some wanted more support to individual artists and equity in funding for different sectors. A few suggested improving the NDCA website. When asked for additional suggestions for NDCA planning, most often respondents said they had no other suggestions or encouraged the Council to “keep up the good work” and “thank you.”

Support for potential statewide advocacy organization The majority of respondents would support a potential new statewide arts organization with membership and dues. Seven in ten would likely join as a member. Six in ten would likely contribute dues to support advocacy. A third would consider joining the board of directors of an advocacy organization. Nearly as many would consider serving as a

regional advocacy captain. Just under half would respond to calls for advocacy by contacting elected officials. Survey respondents were nearly equally motivated to gain information and support, to support coordinated advocacy, and to be part of a larger arts network. This finding suggests advocacy should be combined with networking, information, and support to members. Responses suggest a statewide advocacy organization is feasible. Many people are willing to serve in leadership, but funding and on-the ground follow through with action are not assured.

NDCA website A third of respondents reported they visited the state arts agency web site several times a year. This was the most frequent response. Nearly a quarter said they visited about monthly. Sixteen percent had not visited the site and 13% rarely did so. North Dakota arts constituents give the NDCA website consistently high ratings. For those familiar with the site, over 90% said the website was easy to find, information was easy to find on the website, information was updated, and information was accurate. However, a few comments were critical of the web site. The majority of survey respondents were aware of www.CulturePulse.org, the state's online events calendar. Nearly half had used the website to look up events, resources, information, artists, organizations, or venues.

K-12 Arts Education Over half of all respondents were not satisfied that North Dakota K-12 students get an education that includes adequate instruction in the visual and performing arts. About a third was satisfied. Respondents had an even lower opinion about the accessibility of quality arts education. Only two in ten believe that a good arts education is equally accessible to students throughout North Dakota. Over two thirds believed that this was not likely.

Artists' Opinions One hundred and eighteen artists answered questions in the following section.

Market for North Dakota artists' work Over three quarters of artists reported that the market for their work was regional. Over half reported they marketed locally, nearly half marketed nationally, and 10% marketed internationally. Many artists had multiple markets. Even amidst the great recession, three quarters of responding artists indicated their markets had remained steady or grown over the past two years. Over a third of artists (37%) reported the market for their work had remained stable. Over a quarter reported their market had grown slightly. Fourteen percent said their market had declined slightly. Ten percent indicated slight growth and fewer reported slight declines. Artists were mostly confident in the future of their arts careers.

Health insurance Just over three quarters of artists reported that they had health insurance and 24% said they did not. North Dakota artists are less often insured than most Americans. According to the US Census, 15.3% of U.S. residents did not have health insurance in 2007.

Access to professional development and networks Half of responding artists indicated they had access to the professional development workshops and courses they needed. Another half did not. Over two thirds of artists reported they were satisfied they had adequate networks of support from other artists and

other people in the cultural sector. About three quarters of responding artists were aware of NDCA artists' fellowships.

Important artist needs Increased sales or other earnings topped artists' list of most important needs for nearly all artists, followed closely by need for more marketing, and grant funding. Other important needs include finding equipment, materials, or supplies; networking; health insurance; access to exhibition space; and validation of the artists' work. Validation was a surprisingly strong second-place need after other, very important needs.

Opinions of Nonprofit Cultural Organizations One hundred and thirty seven individuals answered the following questions on behalf of nonprofit arts and cultural organizations.

Overall cultural organization health Nearly eight in ten cultural organization leaders believe their organizations are doing OK or strong. In near-equal proportions, they were "coping -- OK with some significant problems" or "strong -- doing well, with no problems we can't handle". Twelve percent thought their organizations were "really struggling -- laying off staff or can't pay bills". Only one reported their organization was essentially not operating or was shutting down.

NDCA online grant system Organization representatives responding to the survey gave the NDCA online grant system high marks, with a 92% or better approval rating for every feature. Cultural leaders nearly all agreed or strongly agreed that the online grant system worked as intended. The following summary ignores respondents who were unfamiliar with the grants system. While most agreed the system worked, a few disagreed that the system was easy to use.

Cultural organization's needs Funding was the most significant need for cultural leaders. Programming funds and operating funds were very important or important for nearly all cultural organization leaders responding. Other needs, ranked according to what is very important were: help with marketing/audience development, public information/advocacy, help with funds development, networking, and board/volunteer development. Important for fewer leaders were: staff development, information, help with technology, help with planning, help with building accessibility, or other management help or training.

Infrastructure needs About half of cultural leaders reported infrastructure needs for their organizations. Set construction/storage, sound and lighting systems, and other stage equipment and furnishings were important or critical needs for some organizations. Audience accessibility accommodations were less important needs.

Impact Foundation's training Most cultural leaders were unaware of the foundation's management training.

Anticipated accomplishments The survey asked cultural leaders to indicate the top three areas expected to be their organizations' most significant accomplishments in the next three years. The top three anticipated accomplishments were: audience participation, financial stability, and arts/cultural

programming. Audience/community participation with increased awareness and support was cited most often. Nearly as often leaders expected financial stability with bills paid and/or growing. Sustained or improved arts and cultural programming was expected for many. Fewer expected to build community partnerships, create or sustain arts education programs, recruit and retain board/staff/volunteers, and develop facilities .

Anticipated challenges Funding is by far the most frequently anticipated challenge in the next three years. Seventy-eight percent were concerned about inadequate revenues. The majority also cited public awareness – the challenge of awareness and appreciation as an expected challenge. Nearly as many are concerned about audiences or memberships either declining or needing to be increased. In general, cultural leaders were less concerned about facilities, arts education, or artistic quality.

Educators' Opinions One hundred and seventy-five educators, teaching artists, and parents of K-12 students answered the following questions. Teaching artists were the largest group of respondents, followed by parents and classroom teachers. There were a few arts specialists, school administrators, principals, and cultural organization educator. There were no students in our sample.

Perceptions of K-12 arts education Educators' opinions of K-12 arts education were mixed and were generally more positive about the state of North Dakota arts education than the larger sample of all survey respondents. In general, negative perceptions prevail, though educators were equally split in believing that most students receive regular arts instruction and most arts classes are taught by arts specialists. More educators agreed with these statements than any others. Slightly fewer educators believed that most students have access to cultural field trips or in-school cultural presentations or that classroom teachers incorporate the arts into lessons, projects, or assignments. Even fewer educators believe that most students experience artists visiting their schools or that most teachers use North Dakota Fine Arts standards in their teaching. Few believe that most students have access to after school programs that include the arts.

Frequency of arts instruction in schools The survey asked educators how often students experience arts instruction in their schools. Most often they believe this is less than once per week. Slightly fewer educators report students experience art once per week. Eighteen percent report arts experiences more than once a week. A few report students experience art in school less than once per month and a very few report this happens rarely or never.

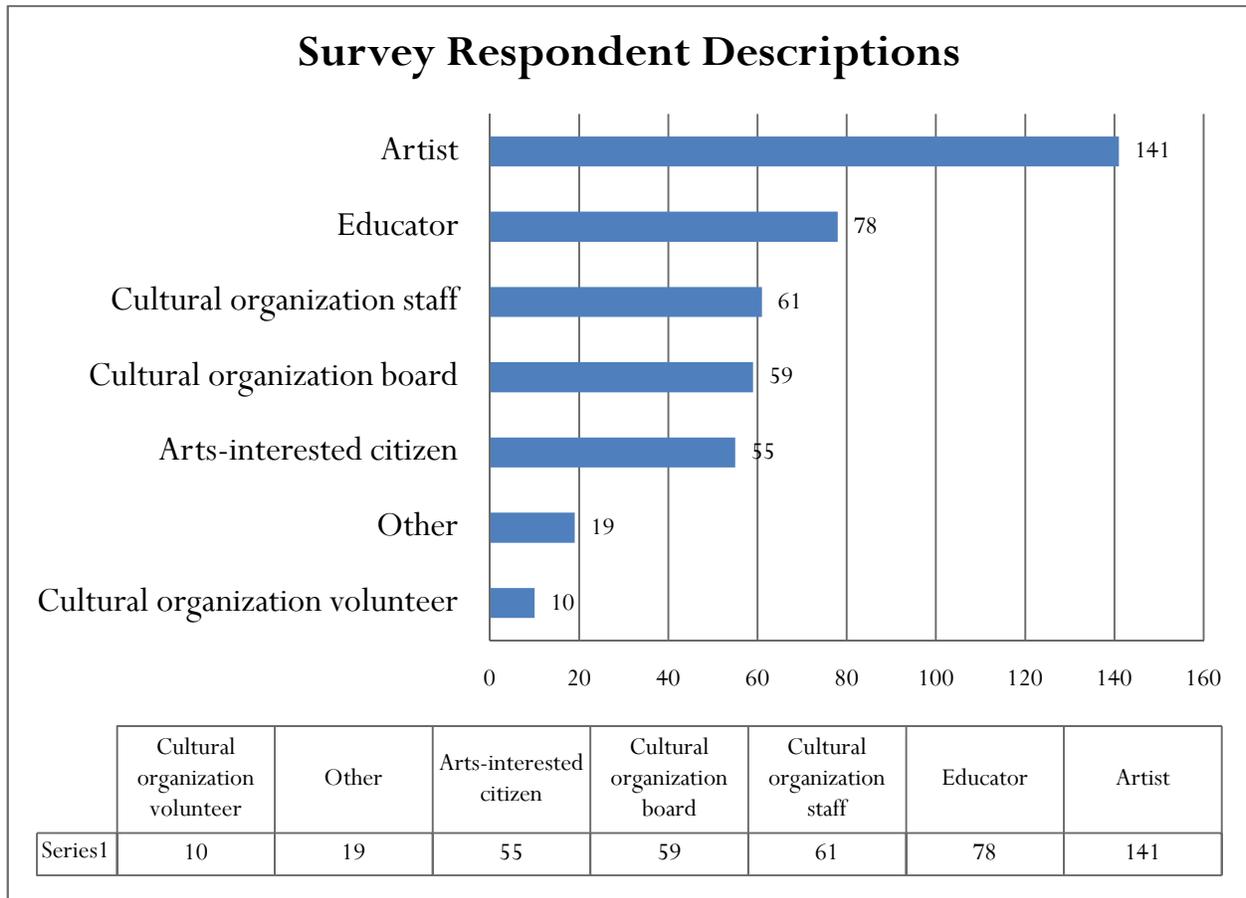
What is working well in arts education Educators most often cited Arts teachers and support to teachers, NDCA Artist in Residence program, standards, and cultural organization partners to schools as successful.

What should be improved in education The most common suggestion -- by far -- was to employ arts specialists in more schools or in every school. Other frequent comments include: a general suggestion to provide students with more arts education opportunities, advocate for public support of arts education, enforce state standards for time on instruction, and provide more funding for arts education.

Full Report of Survey Results

General Questions

- 1. Respondent demographics** Artists represented the largest group of survey respondents. Cultural organization leaders and educators were also well represented.



2-3. CulturePulse.org awareness and use

Six in ten survey respondents (62%) were aware of www.CulturePulse.org, the state's online events calendar. Nearly half (45%) had used the web site to look up events, resources, information, artists, organizations or venues.

2. Are you aware of www.culturepulse.org the state's online events calendar?			
Yes		262	62%
No		159	38%
Total		421	100%

3. Have you used www.culturepulse.org to look up events, resources, information, artists, organizations, or venues?			
Yes		189	45%
No		232	55%
Total		421	100%

4. Important NDCA priorities

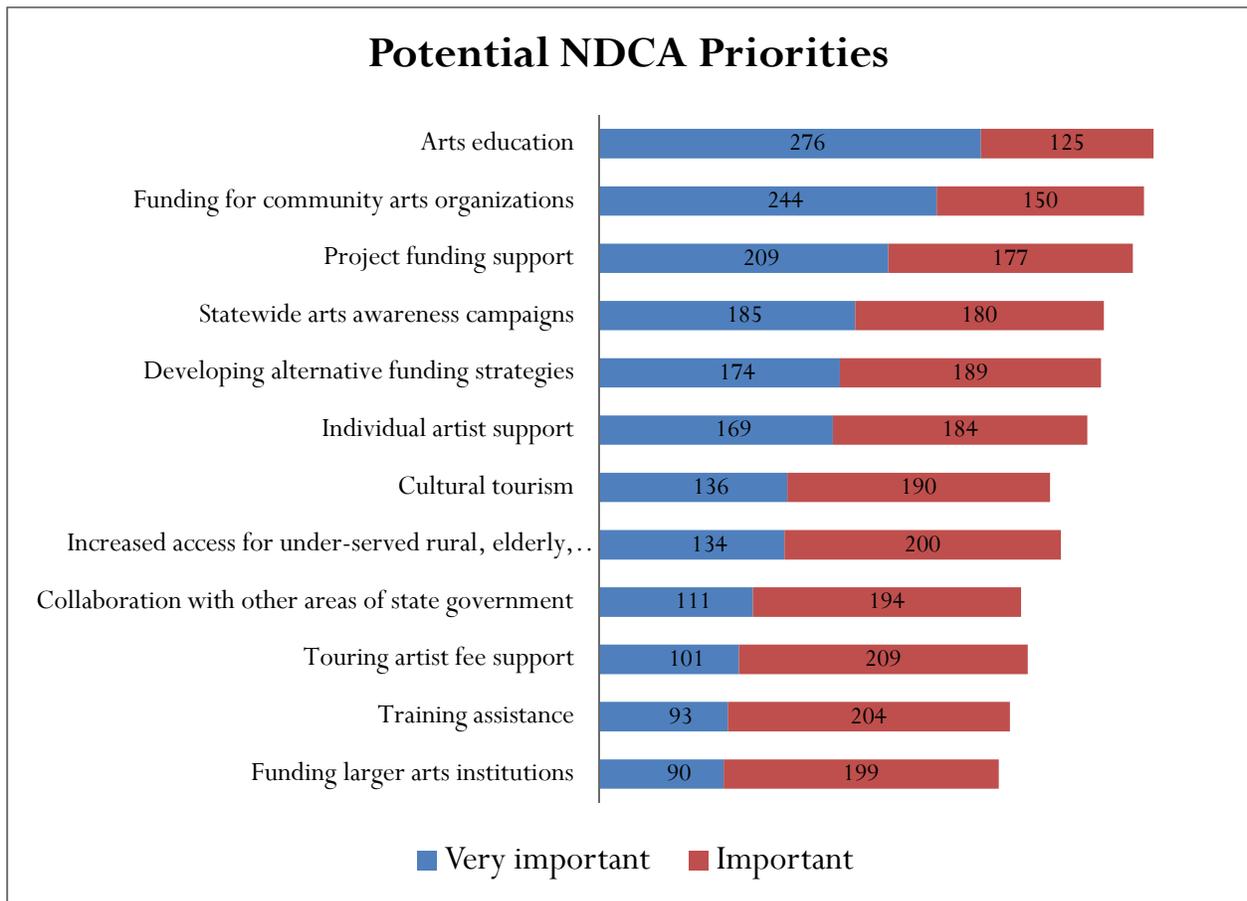
Survey respondents thought the top three most important NDCA priorities -- very important or important for more than 90% -- were: arts education (important for 96%), funding for community arts organizations (94%), and project funding support (92%).

Next most important were: statewide arts awareness campaigns (important for 87%), developing alternative funding strategies (87%), and individual artist support (84%).

Most respondents also valued: increased access for under-served rural, elderly, and Native American populations (important for 80%) and cultural tourism (79%).

The majority also thought the balance of potential priorities were important: collaboration with other areas of state government (important for 74%), touring artist fee support (74%), training assistance (71%), and funding for larger arts institutions (70%).

The chart below illustrates the number of respondents who thought each issue was very important (left bar) or important (right bar). These are listed in the order of most importance. The following chart displays detailed responses in the order questions were presented in the survey.



4. What should be the most important priorities for the North Dakota Council on the Arts over the next few years? Please indicate how important each of the following are for you?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

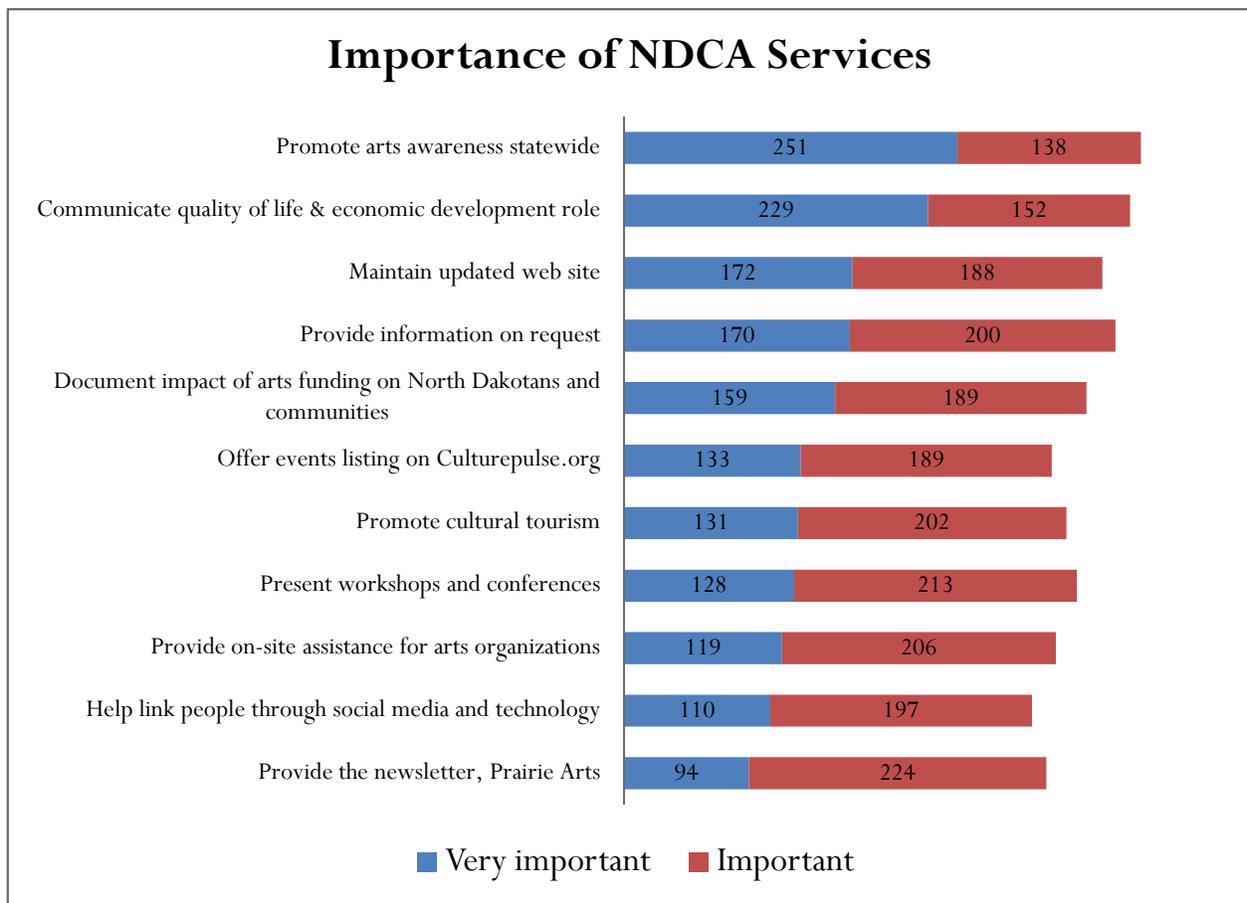
	Very Important	Important	Not very important	Un-Important	N/A
Arts education	276	125	16	1	0
	66%	30%	4%	0%	0%
Collaboration with other areas of state government	111	194	83	15	10
	27%	47%	20%	4%	2%
Cultural tourism	136	190	76	10	4
	33%	46%	18%	2%	1%
Developing alternative funding strategies	174	189	42	5	6
	42%	45%	10%	1%	1%
Funding for community arts organizations	244	150	20	3	1
	58%	36%	5%	1%	0%
Funding for North Dakota's larger arts institutions	90	199	96	26	4
	22%	48%	23%	6%	1%
Individual artist support	169	184	58	5	4
	40%	44%	14%	1%	1%
Increased access for under-served rural, elderly, Native American populations	134	200	58	20	6
	32%	48%	14%	5%	1%
Project funding support	209	177	24	3	5
	50%	42%	6%	1%	1%
Statewide arts awareness campaigns	185	180	44	5	2
	44%	43%	11%	1%	0%
Touring artist fee support	101	209	84	15	6
	24%	50%	20%	4%	1%
Training assistance	93	204	97	10	11
	22%	49%	23%	2%	3%

5. Importance of NDCA Services

The survey asked constituents how important were NDCA services. The two most important services were: promote arts awareness statewide (important to 93%) and communicate the role arts play in quality of life and economic development (91%). Nearly as important were NDCA services to provide information on request (88%) and maintain an updated web site (86%).

About three quarters of respondents thought it important to: promote cultural tourism (79%), document impact of arts funding on North Dakotans and communities (78%), provide on-site assistance for arts organizations (78%), offer events listings on CulturePulse.org (77%), provide the newsletter Prairie Arts (75%), help link people through social media networking (73%), and present workshops and conferences (72%).

The chart below portrays the number of respondents who thought each issue was very important (left bar) or important (right bar). These are listed in the order of most importance. The following chart displays detailed responses in the order questions were presented in the survey.



5. Please indicate how important each North Dakota Council on the Arts service is to you.

	Very important	Important	Not very important	Unimportant	N/A
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.					
Communicate role arts play in quality of life & economic development	229	152	30	5	3
	55%	36%	7%	1%	1%
Promote arts awareness statewide	251	138	23	3	2
	60%	33%	6%	1%	0%
Provide information on request	170	200	38	6	6
	40%	48%	9%	1%	1%
Document impact of arts funding on North Dakotans and communities	159	189	60	8	3
	38%	45%	14%	2%	1%
Maintain updated web site	172	188	46	6	6
	41%	45%	11%	1%	1%
Promote cultural tourism	131	202	70	11	4
	31%	48%	17%	3%	1%
Provide the newsletter, Prairie Arts	94	224	80	12	10
	22%	53%	19%	3%	2%
Offer events listing on Culturepulse.org	133	189	66	10	19
	32%	45%	16%	2%	5%
Provide on-site assistance for arts organizations	119	206	75	8	9
	29%	49%	18%	2%	2%
Present workshops and conferences	128	213	70	3	3
	31%	51%	17%	1%	1%
Help link people through social media and technology	110	197	93	11	6
	26%	47%	22%	3%	1%

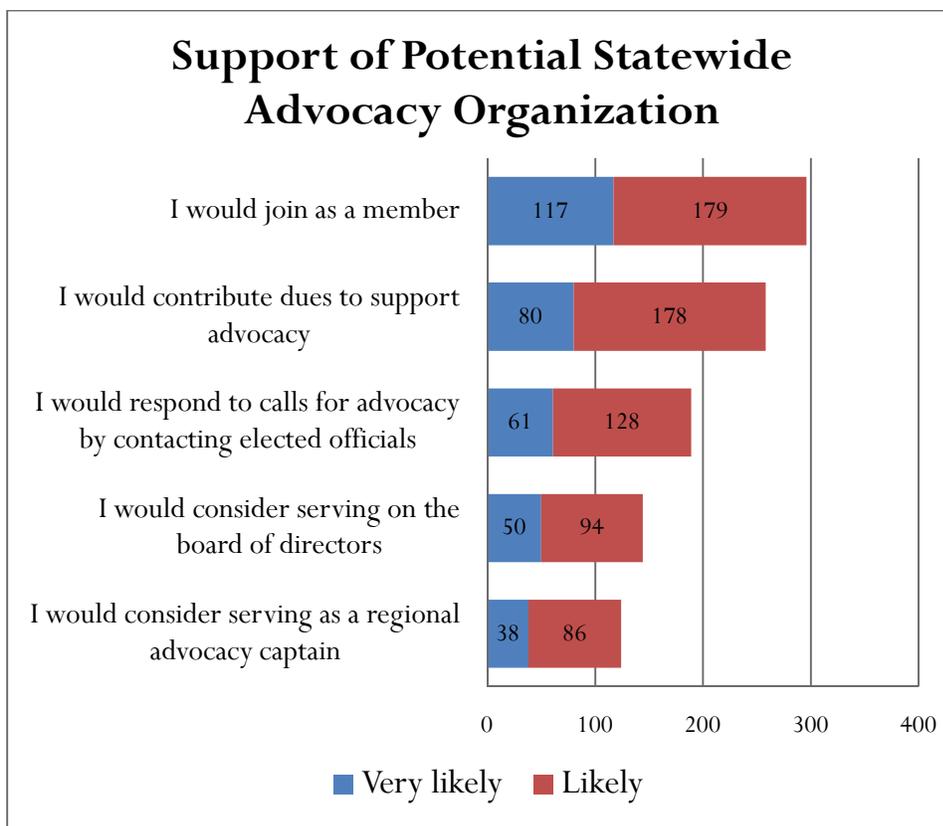
6-7. Support for, and motivation for joining potential statewide advocacy organization

The majority of respondents would support a potential new statewide arts organization with membership and dues. Seven in ten would likely join as a member (42% likely and 28% very likely to do so). Six in ten would likely contribute dues to support advocacy (43% likely and 19% very likely to do so).

A third would consider joining the board of directors of an advocacy organization (22% likely and 12% very likely). Nearly as many would consider serving as a regional advocacy captain (21% likely and 9% very likely). Nearly half would respond to calls for advocacy by contacting elected officials (31% likely and 15% very likely to do so).

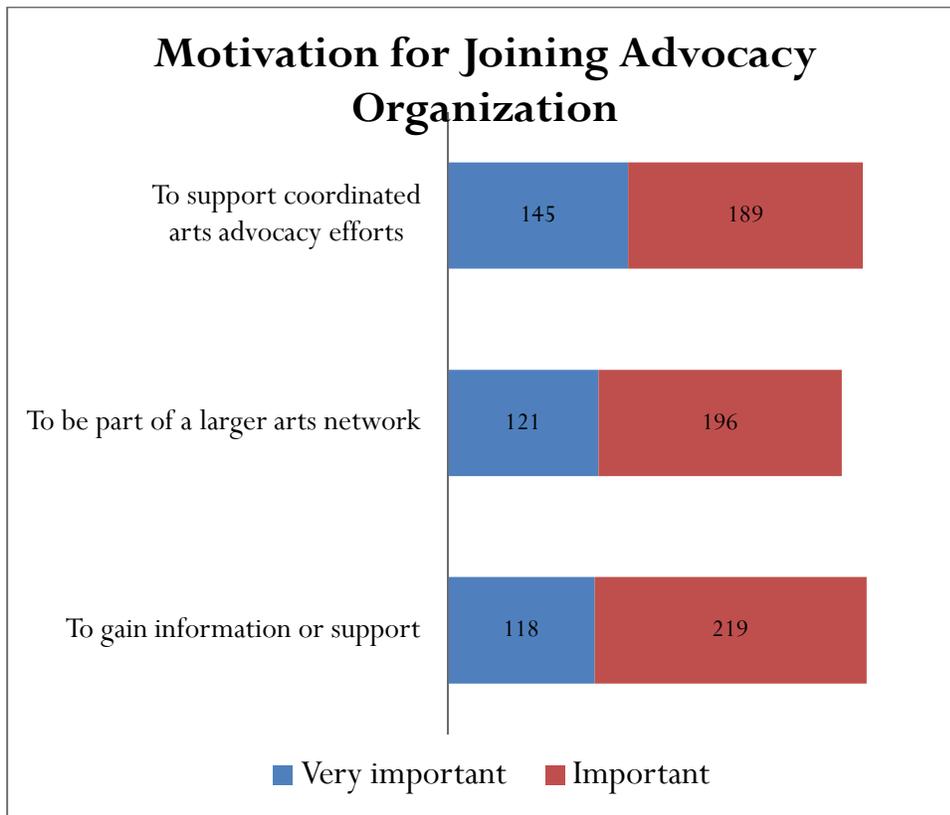
Survey respondents were nearly equally motivated to gain information and support (important or very important for 89%), to support coordinated advocacy (87%), and to be part of a larger arts network (84%). This finding suggests advocacy should be combined with networking, information, and support to members.

These findings suggest that a statewide advocacy organization is feasible. Enough people seem willing to serve in leadership, but funding and on-the ground follow through with action are not assured.



6. How likely would you be to support a potential new statewide arts advocacy organization?					
	Very likely	Likely	Not very likely	Not at all likely	Uncertain
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.					
I would join as a member	117	179	90	15	21
	28%	42%	21%	4%	5%
I would contribute dues to support advocacy	80	178	111	23	26

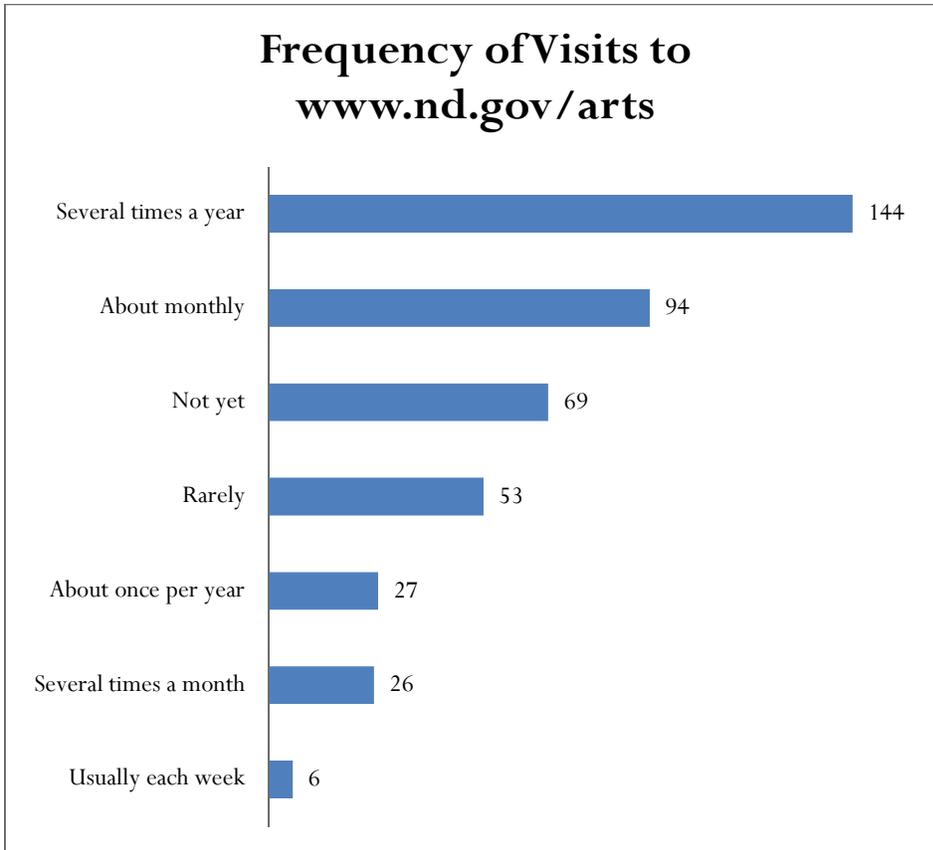
	19%	43%	27%	6%	6%
I would consider serving on the board of directors	50	94	165	90	20
	12%	22%	39%	21%	5%
I would consider serving as a regional advocacy captain	38	86	162	105	23
	9%	21%	39%	25%	6%
I would respond to calls for advocacy by contacting elected officials	61	128	139	69	21
	15%	31%	33%	17%	5%



7. If you are interested to support statewide advocacy, what would be your most important motivation?				
	Very important	Important	Not very important	Unimportant
To support coordinated arts advocacy efforts	145	189	42	8
	38%	49%	11%	2%
To be part of a larger arts network	121	196	56	7
	32%	52%	15%	2%
To gain information or support	118	219	36	5
	31%	58%	10%	1%

8. Visits to NDCA web site

A third of respondents (34%) reported they visited the state arts agency web site several times a year. This was the most frequent response. Nearly a quarter (22%) said they visited about monthly. Sixteen percent had not visited the site and 13% rarely did so.

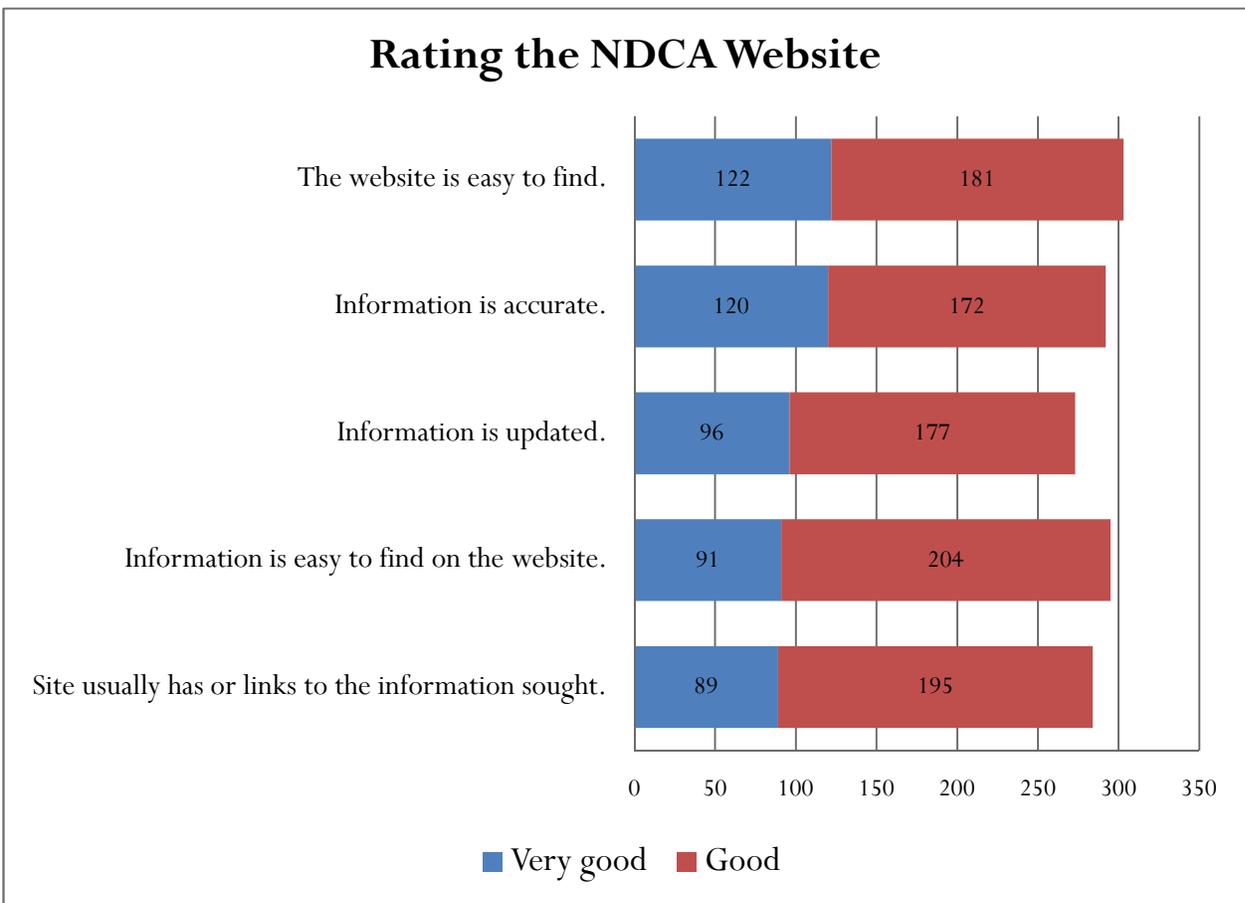


8. How frequently do you visit the North Dakota Council on the Arts' web site, www.nd.gov/arts ? Please pick the one best description of your usage.			
Usually each week		6	1%
Several times a month		26	6%
About monthly		94	22%
Several times a year		144	34%
About once per year		27	6%
Rarely		53	13%
Not yet		69	16%
Total		419	100%

9. Rating the NDCA web site

North Dakota arts constituents give the NDCA website consistently high ratings. For those familiar with the site (ignoring N/A unknown responses), 93% said the website was easy to find, information is easy to find on the website, information was updated; and 91% said information is accurate. However a few open-ended comments indicate that some see the need for improvement in the site’s look, accuracy, and navigation. The following analysis ignores those who were unfamiliar with the web site.

- The website is easy to find: (55% good, 37% very good, 7% not very good, and 0.06% not good at all).
- Web site information is updated: (60% good, 33% very good, 7% not very good, and 1% not good at all).
- Web site usually has or links to information sought: (64% good, 29% very good, 6% not very good, and 1% not good at all).
- Web site is updated: (60% good, 33% very good, 7% not very good, and 1% not good at all).
- Web site information was accurate: (64% good, 29% very good, 7% not very good, and 1% not good at all).



9. Please rate our website, www.nd.gov/arts. The percentages below includes those unaware of the website.					
	Very good	Good	Not very good	Not good at all	N/A or Unknown
The website is easy to find.	122	181	22	2	86
	30%	44%	5%	0%	21%
Information is easy to find on the website.	91	204	21	3	93

	22%	50%	5%	1%	23%
Site usually has or links to the information sought.	89	195	18	3	105
	22%	48%	4%	1%	26%
Information is accurate.	120	172	7	2	107
	29%	42%	2%	0%	26%
Information is updated.	96	177	20	2	109
	24%	44%	5%	0%	27%

10. Is there information you wish to see on the NDCA website, www.nd.gov/arts that you don't find?

73 Responses

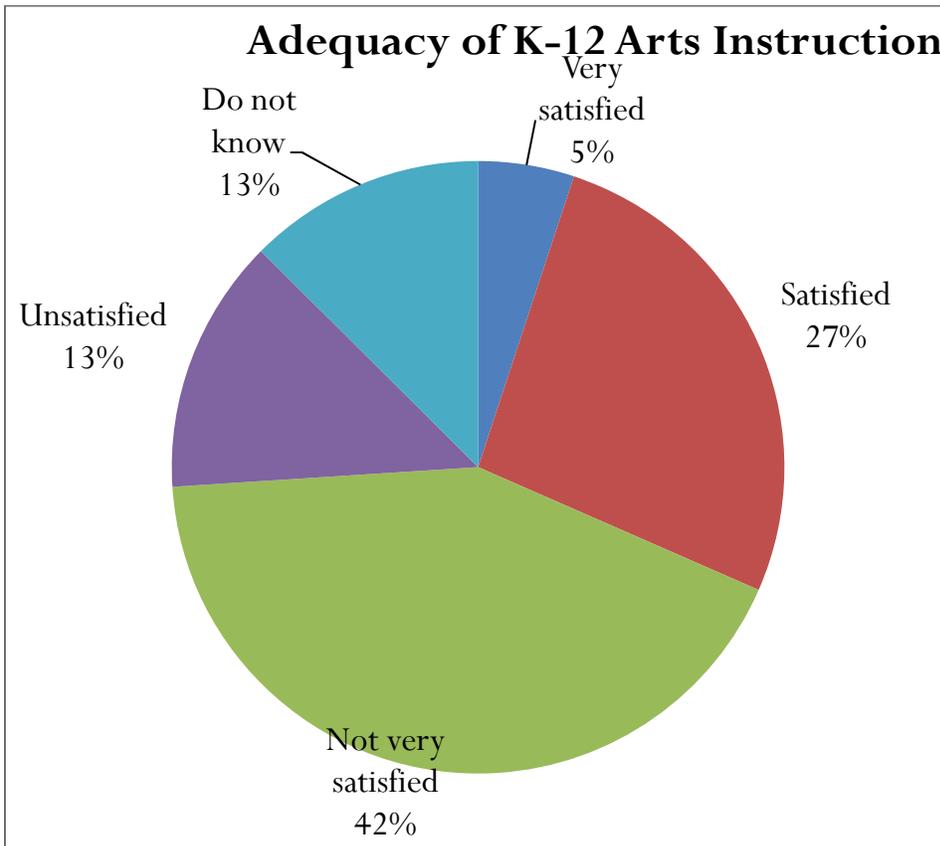
Repeated comments

- ❖ No, nothing (cited by 15)
- ❖ Individual artists listing, profiles, contact information (7)
- ❖ More information on Native Americans (2)

11. Adequacy of K-12 Arts Education

The survey asked all respondents their perception of the quality and accessibility of arts education in North Dakota. In a later question, educators answered more specific questions.

Over half of respondents (55%) were not satisfied that North Dakota K-12 students get an education that includes adequate instruction in the visual and performing arts (of these 42% were not very satisfied and 13% were unsatisfied). About a third was satisfied (32%) and another 13% did not know. Of those who were satisfied, only 5% were very satisfied.

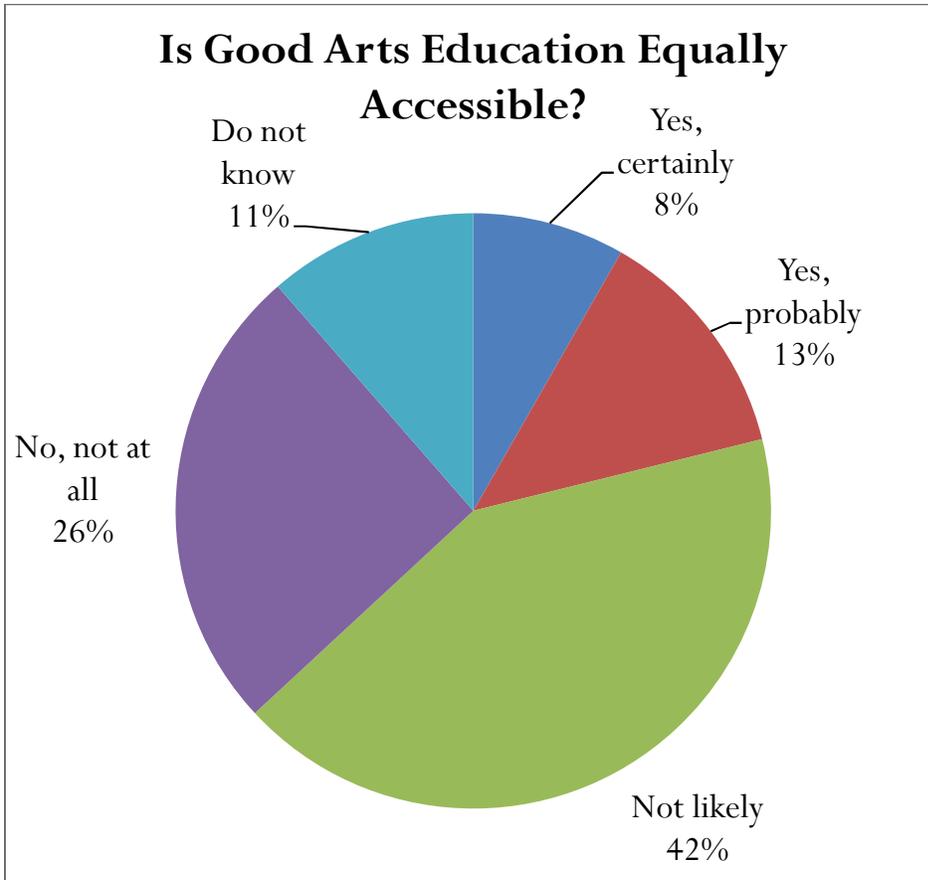


11. How satisfied are you that North Dakota K-12 students get an education that includes adequate instruction in the visual and performing arts?

Very satisfied		21	5%
Satisfied		110	27%
Not very satisfied		176	42%
Unsatisfied		56	13%
Do not know		52	13%
Total		415	100%

12. Accessibility of arts education

Respondents had an even lower opinion about the accessibility of quality arts education. Only two in ten (21%) believe that a good arts education is equally accessible to students throughout North Dakota. Over two thirds (67%) believed that this was not likely (42% not likely and 25% not at all likely). Another 11% did not know.



Yes, certainly	34	8%
Yes, probably	53	13%
Not likely	173	42%
No, not at all	105	25%
Do not know	47	11%
Total	412	100%

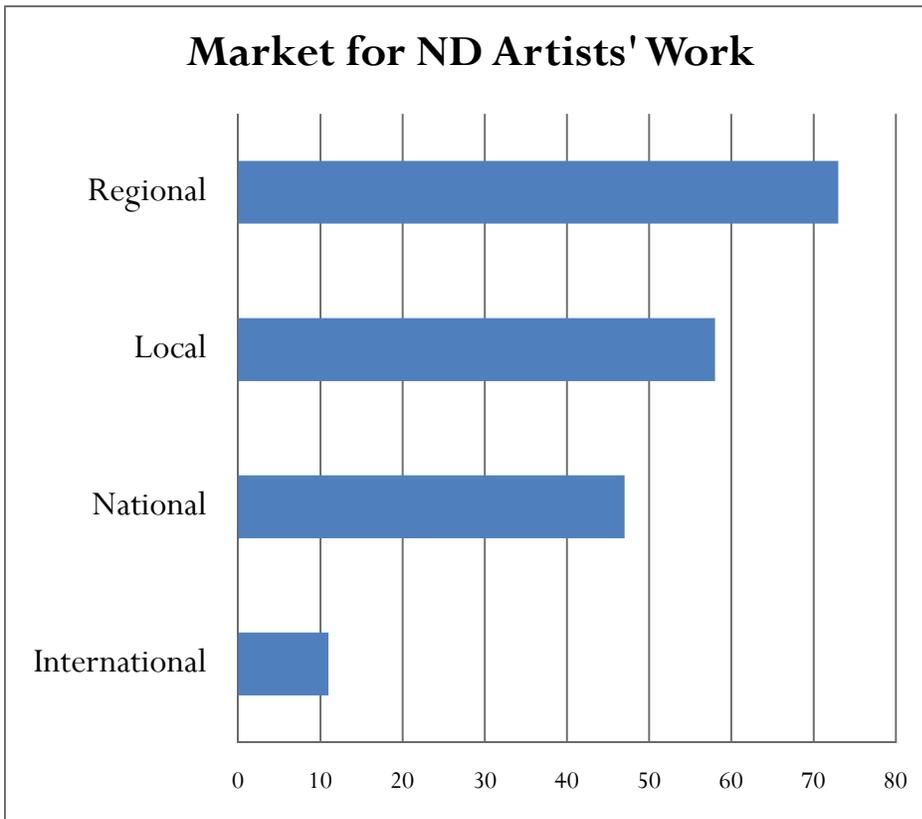
Questions for Artists

One hundred and eighteen artists answered questions in the following section. Non-artists skipped the section.

13. Do you work as an artist 50% or more of your time, or earn 50% or more of your living from your art? If so, we have some additional questions for you.			
Yes		118	28%
No		311	72%
Total		429	100%

Market for North Dakota artists' work

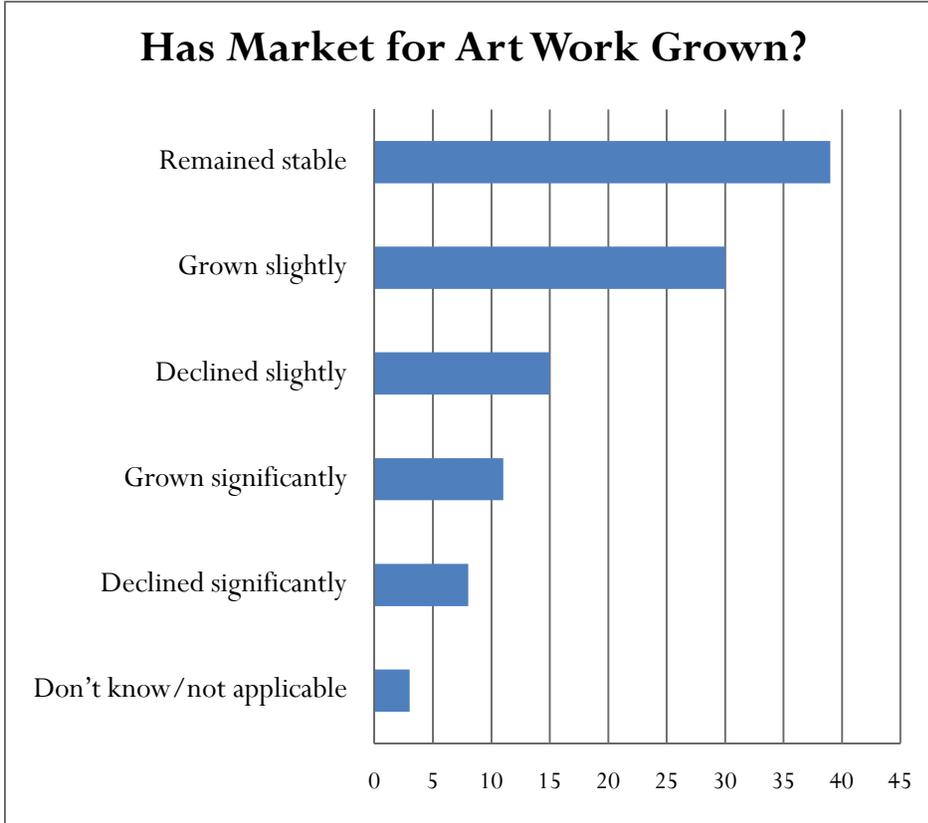
Most often, artists reported that the market for their work was regional (69%). Over half reported they marketed locally (55%), nearly half marketed nationally (44%), and 10% marketed internationally. Many artists had multiple markets.



14. Where is the market for your work as an artist?			
Local		58	55%
Regional		73	69%
National		47	44%
International		11	10%

Artists' Markets have remained stable

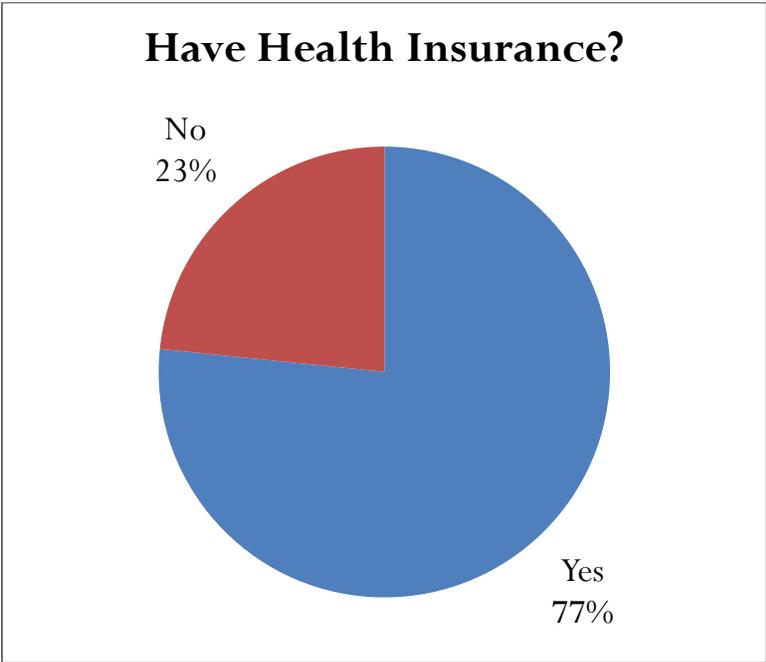
Even amidst the great recession, three quarters of responding artists indicated their markets had remained steady or grown over the past two years. Over a third of artists (37%) reported the market for their work had remained stable. Over a quarter (28%) reported their market had grown slightly. Fourteen percent said their market had declined slightly. Ten percent indicated slight growth and 8% reported significant declines.



15. Over the past two years has market demand for your art work grown?			
Grown significantly		11	10%
Grown slightly		30	28%
Remained stable		39	37%
Declined slightly		15	14%
Declined significantly		8	8%
Don't know/not applicable		3	3%
Total		106	100%

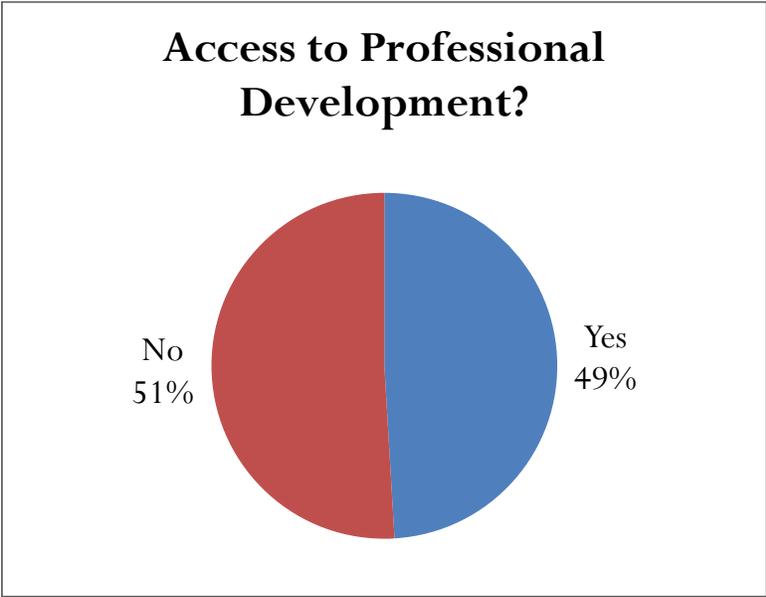
Artists' Health insurance

Just over three quarters of artists (77%) reported that they had health insurance and 23% said they did not. North Dakota artists are less often insured than most Americans. According to the US Census, 15.3% of U.S. residents did not have health insurance in 2007.



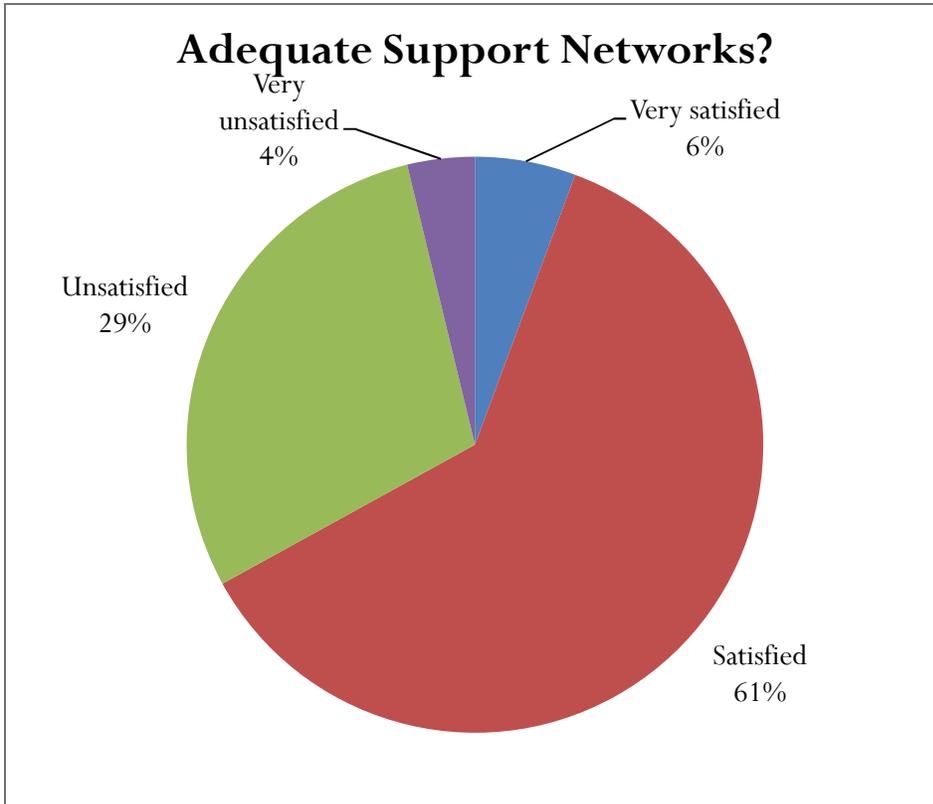
Artist Access to professional development

Half of responding artists (49%) indicated they had access to the professional development workshops and courses they needed. Another half (51%) did not.



Artist Support networks

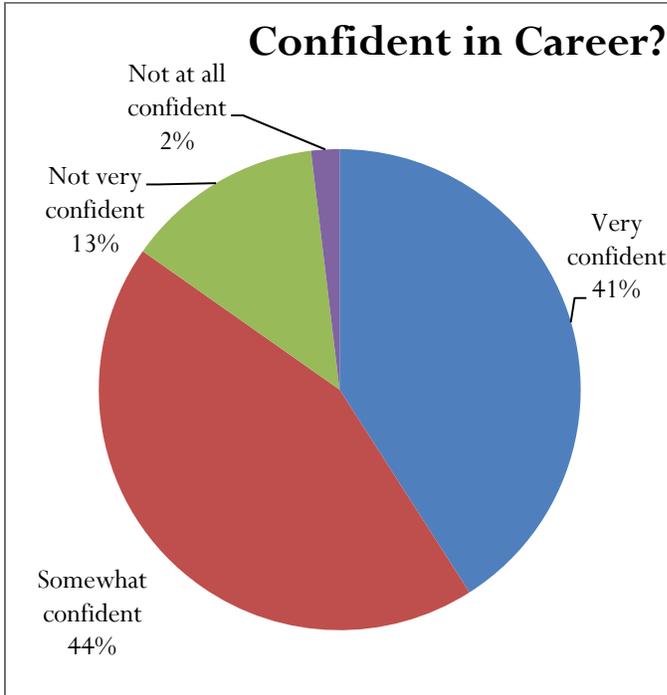
Two thirds of artists (67%) reported they were satisfied they had adequate networks of support from other artists and other people in the cultural sector. A third (33%) was not satisfied with their networks.



18. Are you satisfied that you have adequate networks of support from other artists and other people in the cultural sector?			
Very satisfied		6	6%
Satisfied		65	61%
Unsatisfied		31	29%
Very unsatisfied		4	4%
Total		106	100%

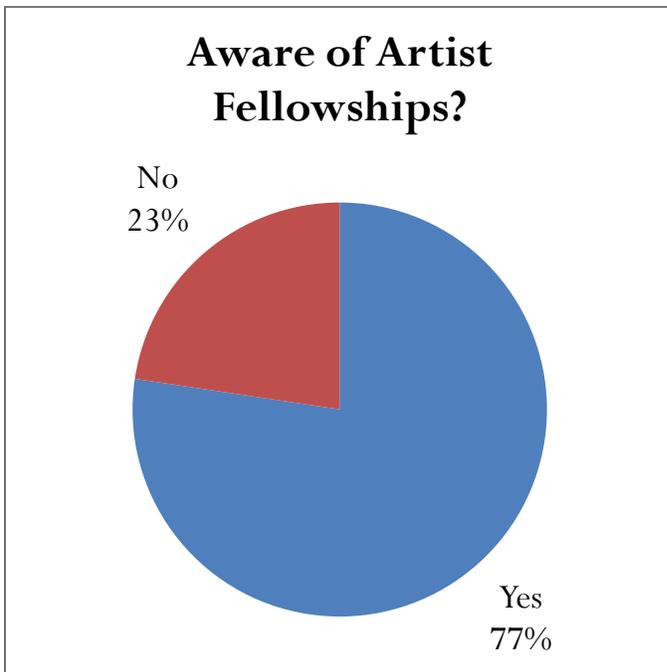
Artist Career confidence

Most artists (85%) were at least somewhat confident in the future of their arts careers. Of these, 44% were somewhat confident and 41% very confident. Only 13% were not very confident and 2% were not at all confident.



Awareness of artists' fellowships

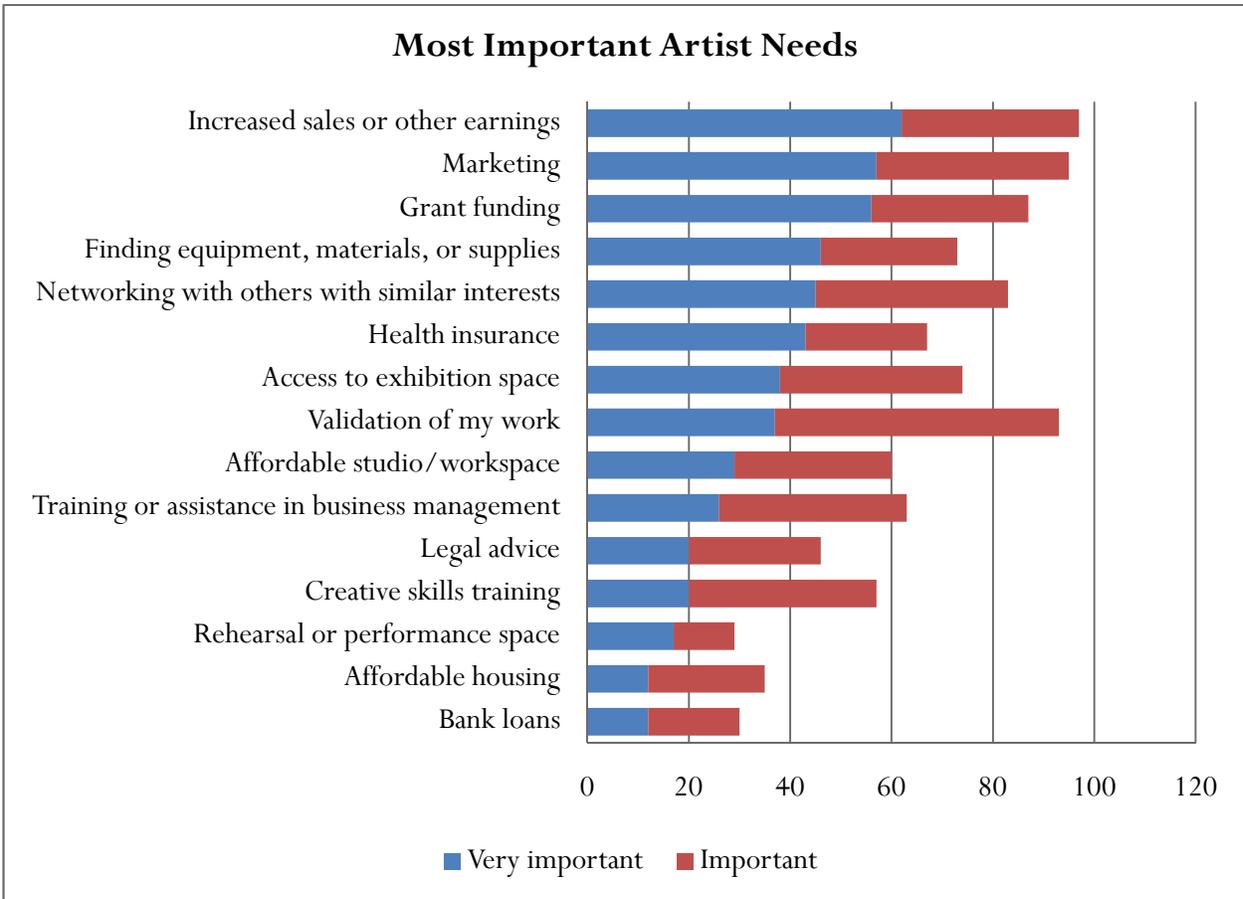
Over three quarters of responding artists (77%) were aware of the NDCA artists' fellowships. Nearly a quarter (23%) was not.



21. Important artist needs

Increased sales or other earnings topped artists' list of most important needs (very important or important for 97%), followed closely by need for more marketing (95%), and grant funding (87%). Validation of artists' work was a surprisingly strong second-place (88% very important and important) need after other, very important needs.

Other important needs include networking (79%); finding equipment, materials, or supplies (70%); access to exhibition space (70%); and health insurance (64%). Other needs include: affordable studio/workspace and training or assistance in business management.



21. What are your most important needs as an artist? [Please rank each potential need or indicate "N/A" (not applicable)].

	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not important	N/A
Validation of my work	37	56	8	3	1
	35%	53%	8%	3%	1%
Training or assistance in creative skills or techniques	20	37	35	11	2
	19%	35%	33%	10%	2%
Training or assistance in business	26	37	35	6	2

management	25%	35%	33%	6%	2%
Marketing	57	38	9	1	1
	54%	36%	8%	1%	1%
Increased sales or other earnings	62	35	6	2	1
	58%	33%	6%	2%	1%
Access to grant funding	56	31	11	5	2
	53%	30%	10%	5%	2%
Access to bank loans	12	18	51	17	7
	11%	17%	49%	16%	7%
Legal advice	20	26	42	12	5
	19%	25%	40%	11%	5%
Affordable housing	12	23	38	21	10
	12%	22%	37%	20%	10%
Affordable studio/workspace	29	31	18	16	11
	28%	30%	17%	15%	10%
Access to rehearsal or performance space	17	12	20	23	31
	17%	12%	19%	22%	30%
Access to exhibition space	38	36	15	7	10
	36%	34%	14%	7%	9%
Health insurance	43	24	12	15	10
	41%	23%	12%	14%	10%
Networking with others with similar interests	45	38	14	5	3
	43%	36%	13%	5%	3%
Finding equipment, materials, or supplies	46	27	14	14	4
	44%	26%	13%	13%	4%

22. What, if anything, would help you as an artist working in North Dakota?

58 Responses

Summary of repeated artist comments These answers are consistent with the fixed-response questions. The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Marketing help (cited by 12 artists)
- ❖ Public education, awareness, and support (10)

- ❖ Grants or loans (9)
- ❖ Access to exhibitions (5)
- ❖ Professional development training (5)
- ❖ Networking, especially online (4)
- ❖ Affordable health care (2)
- ❖ Access to performance venues (2)
- ❖ Grants for studio improvements (2)
- ❖ Web site development (2)

Questions for Nonprofit Cultural Organizations

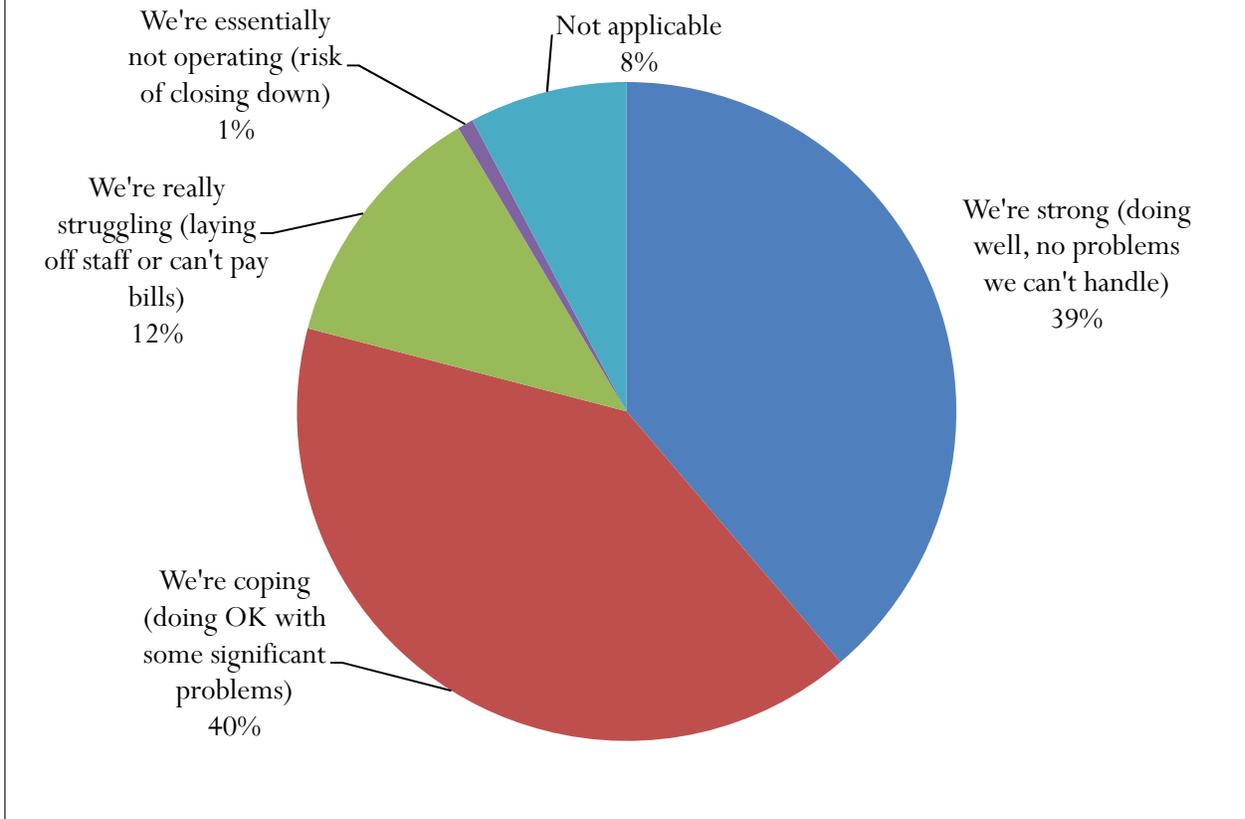
23. One hundred and thirty seven individuals answered the following questions on behalf of nonprofit arts and cultural organizations. Others were directed to the next section.

23. Do you work with a North Dakota arts or cultural organization as staff or board member?			
Yes		137	33%
No		278	67%
Total		415	100%

24. Overall cultural organization health

Nearly eight in ten cultural organization leaders believe their organizations are doing OK or are strong. In near-equal proportions, they were coping (40% “OK with some significant problems” or strong (39% “doing well, with no problems we can’t handle”). Twelve percent thought their organizations were really struggling (laying off staff or can’t pay bills). Only one reported their organization was essentially not operating or was shutting down.

Cultural Organizations' Health



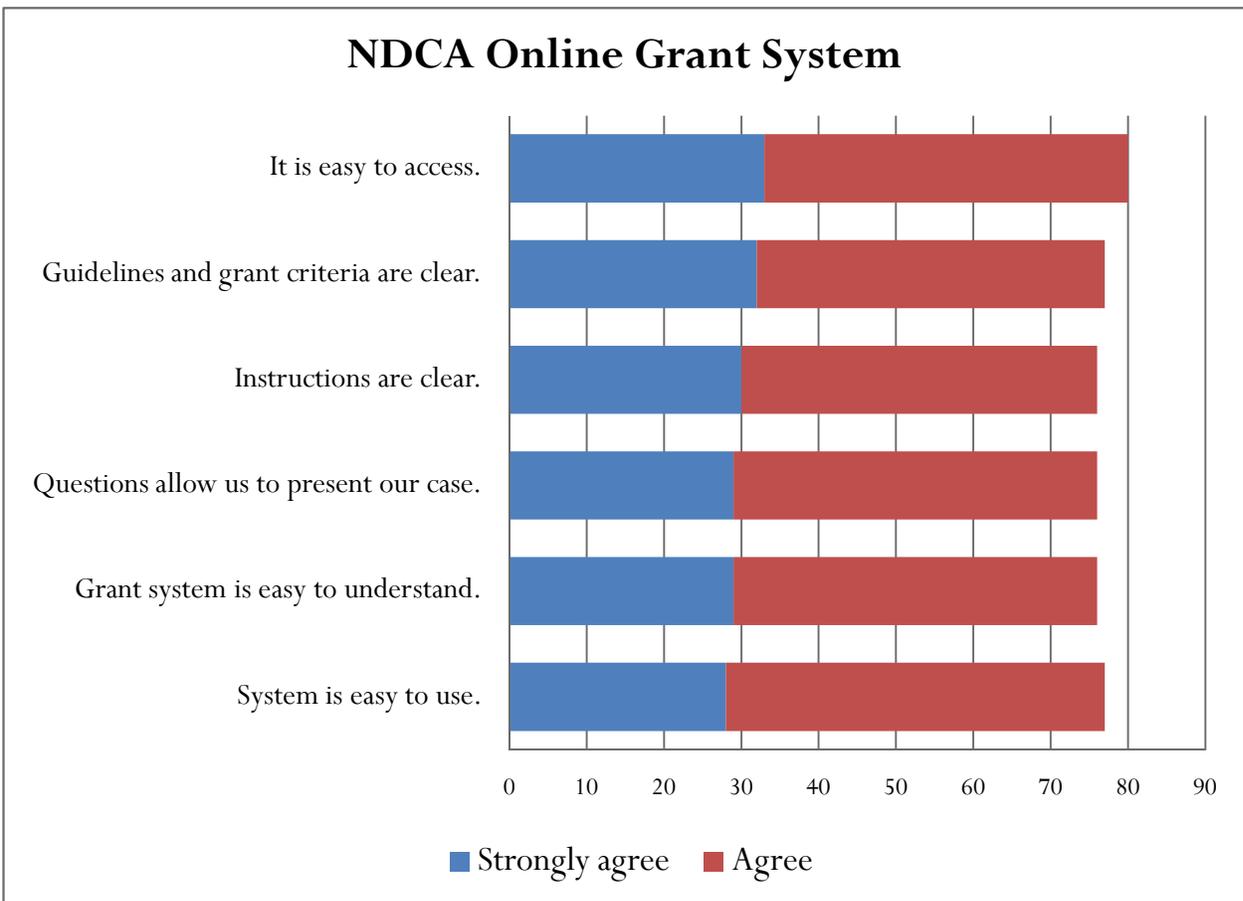
24. If you represent a nonprofit arts organization, how would you describe the health of your organization now? Please check the best characterization.

We're strong (doing well, no problems we can't handle)	50	39%
We're coping (doing OK with some significant problems)	52	40%
We're really struggling (laying off staff or can't pay bills)	16	12%
We're essentially not operating (risk of closing down)	1	1%
Not applicable	10	8%
Total	129	100%

25. NDCA online grant system

Organization representatives who were familiar with grants gave the NDCA online grant system high marks, with at least 92% approval for every feature. Cultural leaders nearly all agreed or strongly agreed that the online grant system worked as intended. The following summary ignores respondents who were unfamiliar with the grants system. While most agreed the system worked, the most disagreement (11%) related to the system's ease of use.

- Grant system is easy to access: Agree 54% agree, 39% strongly agree, 5% disagree
- Guidelines and grant criteria are clear: Agree 54% agree, 38% strongly agree, 8% disagree
- Instructions are clear: Agree 56% agree, 37% strongly agree, 7% disagree
- Questions allow us to present our case: Agree 58% agree, 36% strongly agree, 5% disagree, 1% strongly disagree.
- Grant system is easy to understand: Agree 60% agree, 34% strongly agree, 11% disagree
- Grant system is easy to use: Agree 54% agree, 38% strongly agree, 6% disagree



25. Do you agree with the following statements about the NDCA online grants system? (These percentages include those who were unfamiliar with the grants system and marked N/A or unknown, which were excluded in the analysis above.)

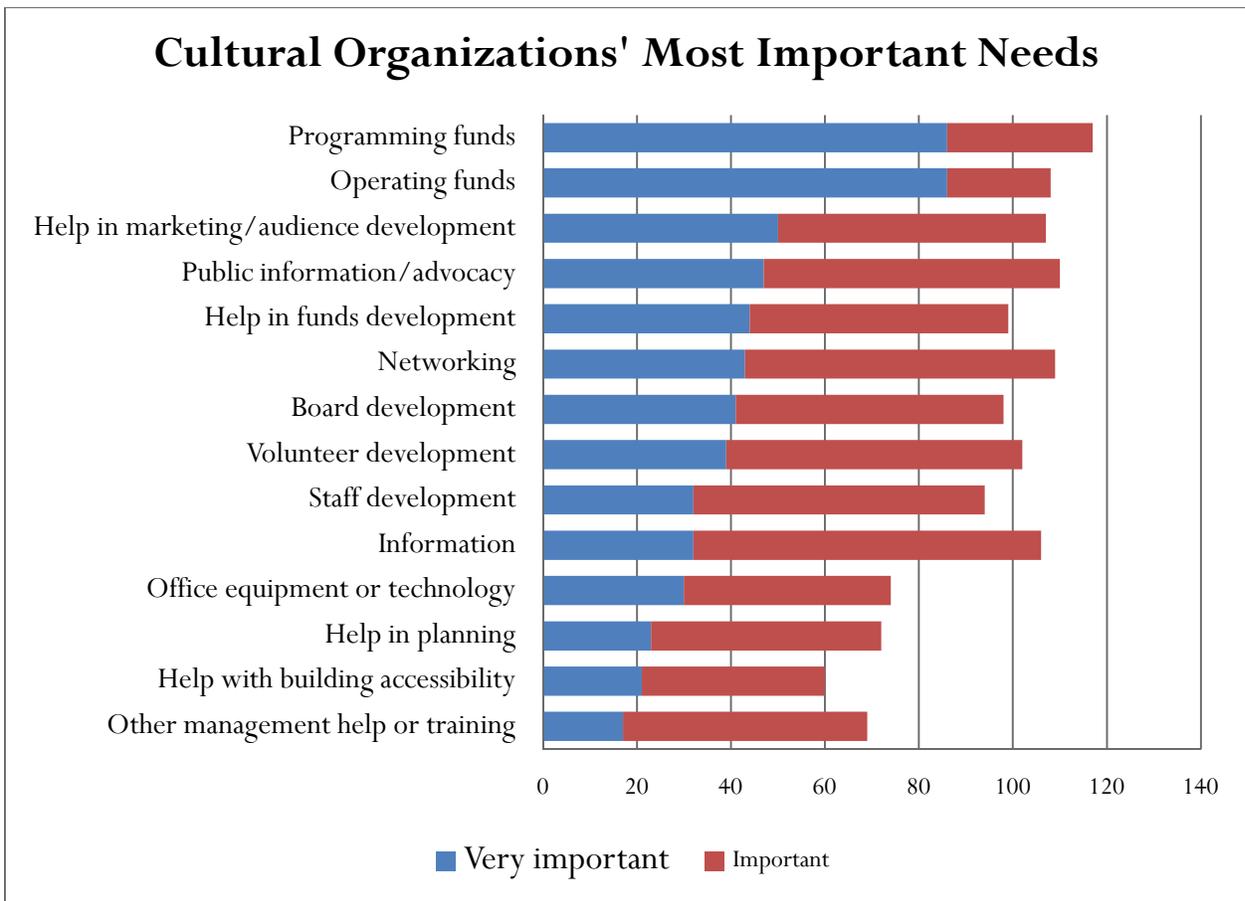
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	N/A or unknown
Grant system is easy to understand.	29	47	9	0	45
	22%	36%	7%	0%	35%
System is easy to use.	28	49	5	0	48
	22%	38%	4%	0%	37%
It is easy to access.	33	47	4	0	46
	25%	36%	3%	0%	35%
Instructions are clear.	30	46	6	0	48
	23%	35%	5%	0%	37%
Guidelines and grant criteria are clear.	32	45	7	0	45
	25%	35%	5%	0%	35%
Questions allow us to present our case.	29	47	4	1	48
	22%	36%	3%	1%	37%

26. Cultural organization's needs

Ranking very important cultural organization needs, funding topped the cultural leaders' lists. Programming funds were very important or important for 92% and operating funds were very important or important for 85%. Funding is significantly most important.

Cultural leaders' responses allow the ranking of other needs in priority, however the difference among most other needs is not too significant. Ranked according to what is "very important": help with marketing/audience development, public information/advocacy, help with funds development, networking, and board/volunteer development.

Important for fewer leaders were: staff development, information, help with technology, help with planning, help with building accessibility, or other management help or training.

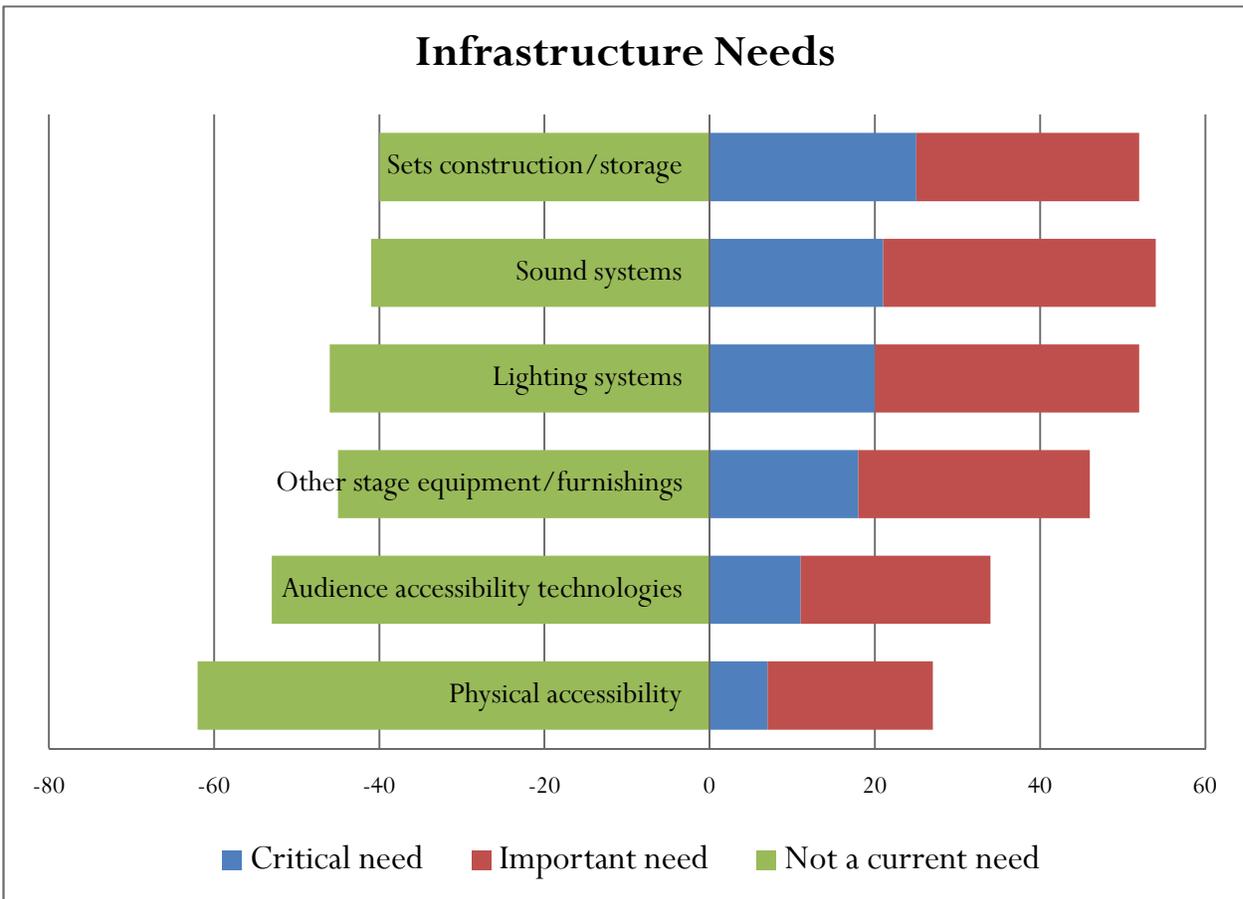


26. What are your arts or cultural organization's most important needs?					
	Very important	Important	Not very important	Unimportant	N/A
Information	32	74	15	0	6
	25%	58%	12%	0%	5%
Board development	41	57	23	2	6
	32%	44%	18%	2%	5%
Staff development	32	62	24	2	8
	25%	48%	19%	2%	6%
Volunteer development	39	63	17	4	4
	31%	50%	13%	3%	3%
Help (training or consulting) in funds development	44	55	19	2	9
	34%	43%	15%	2%	7%
Help in planning	23	49	43	5	8
	18%	38%	34%	4%	6%
Help in marketing/audience development	50	57	14	1	7
	39%	44%	11%	1%	5%
Other management help or training	17	52	44	5	10
	13%	41%	34%	4%	8%
Operating funds	86	22	10	3	6
	68%	17%	8%	2%	5%
Programming funds	86	31	3	2	5
	68%	24%	2%	2%	4%
Network with those with similar interests	43	66	15	0	3
	34%	52%	12%	0%	2%
Public information/advocacy	47	63	12	0	5
	37%	50%	9%	0%	4%
Office equipment or technology	30	44	34	6	12
	24%	35%	27%	5%	10%
Help with building accessibility	21	39	42	13	12
	17%	31%	33%	10%	9%

27. Infrastructure needs

About half of cultural leaders reported infrastructure needs for their organizations. Set construction/storage, sound and lighting systems, and other stage equipment and furnishings were important or critical needs for some organizations. Audience accessibility accommodations were thought to be less important needs.

In the chart below, the left-side (green bars to the left of the zero line) indicate the feature is not a current need. The center (blue) bars indicate a critical need and the right bars (red) indicate an important need.

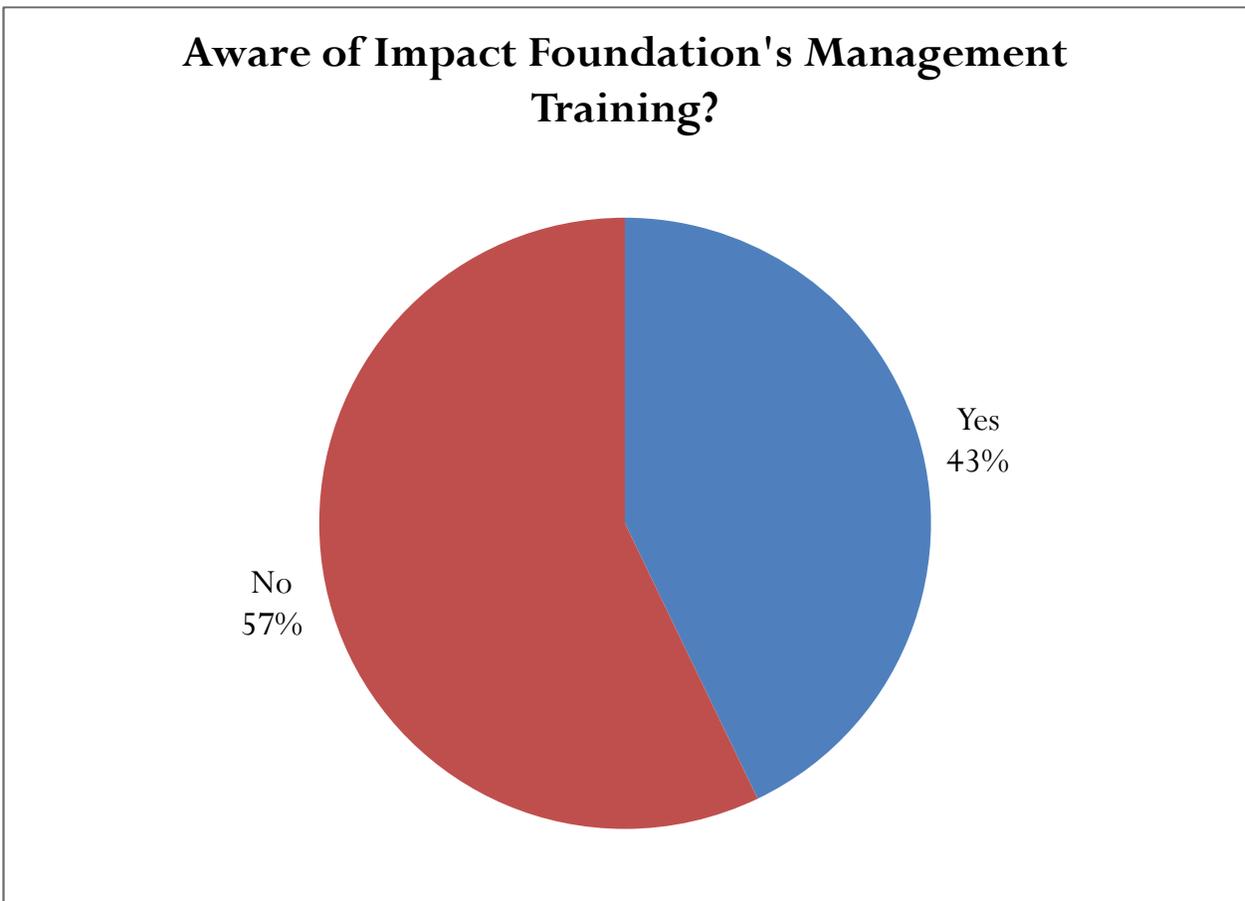


27. What are your arts or cultural organization's most important infrastructure needs?				
	Critical need	Important need	Not a current need	Not applicable
Sound systems	21	33	41	30
	17%	26%	33%	24%
Lighting systems	20	32	46	28
	16%	25%	37%	22%
Sets construction and/or storage	25	27	40	34
	20%	21%	32%	27%

Other stage equipment or furnishings	18	28	45	33
	15%	23%	36%	27%
Audience hearing assistance or other accessibility technologies	11	23	53	39
	9%	18%	42%	31%
Physical accessibility (ramps, elevator, etc.)	7	20	62	37
	6%	16%	49%	29%

28. Awareness of Impact Foundation training

The majority of cultural leaders (57%) were not aware of the Impact Foundation's management training.



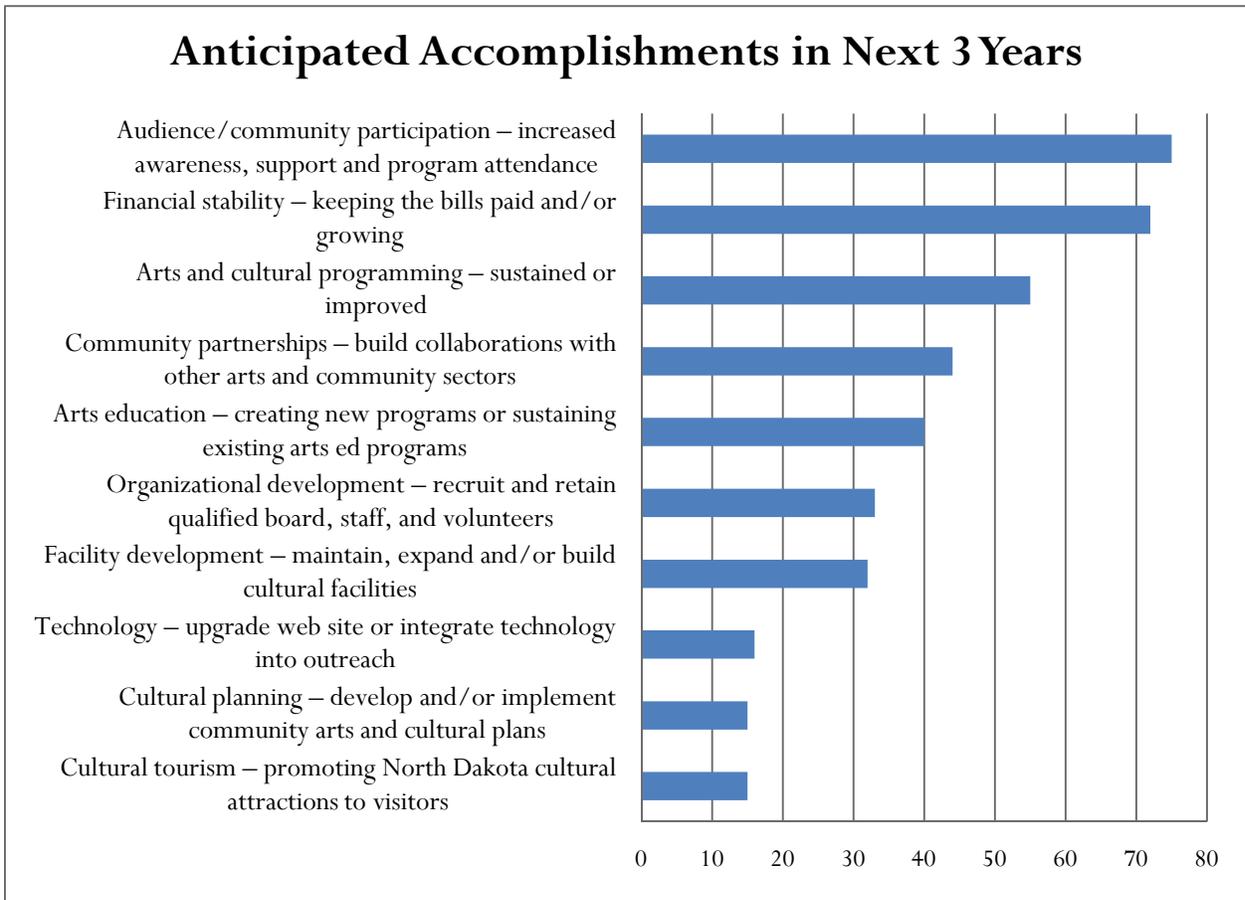
29. Anticipated accomplishments

The survey asked cultural leaders to indicate the top three areas they expect to be their organizations' most significant accomplishments in the next three years. The top three anticipated accomplishments were: audience participation, financial stability, and arts/cultural programming.

Audience/community participation with increased awareness and support was cited most often (60%). Nearly as often leaders expected financial stability with bills paid and/or growing stability (58%). Sustained or improved arts and cultural programming was expected for 44%.

Some expected to build community partnerships (35%), create or sustain arts education programs (32%), recruit and retain board/staff/volunteers (26%), and develop facilities (26%).

Fewer expected to upgrade technology (13%), do community-wide cultural planning (12%), or promote cultural tourism (12%).



29. If you represent an arts or cultural organization, what do you expect to be your three most significant accomplishments in the next three years? Please check the top three areas where you expect to make the most progress.

Audience/community participation – increased awareness, support and program attendance	75	60%
Arts and cultural programming – sustained or improved	55	44%

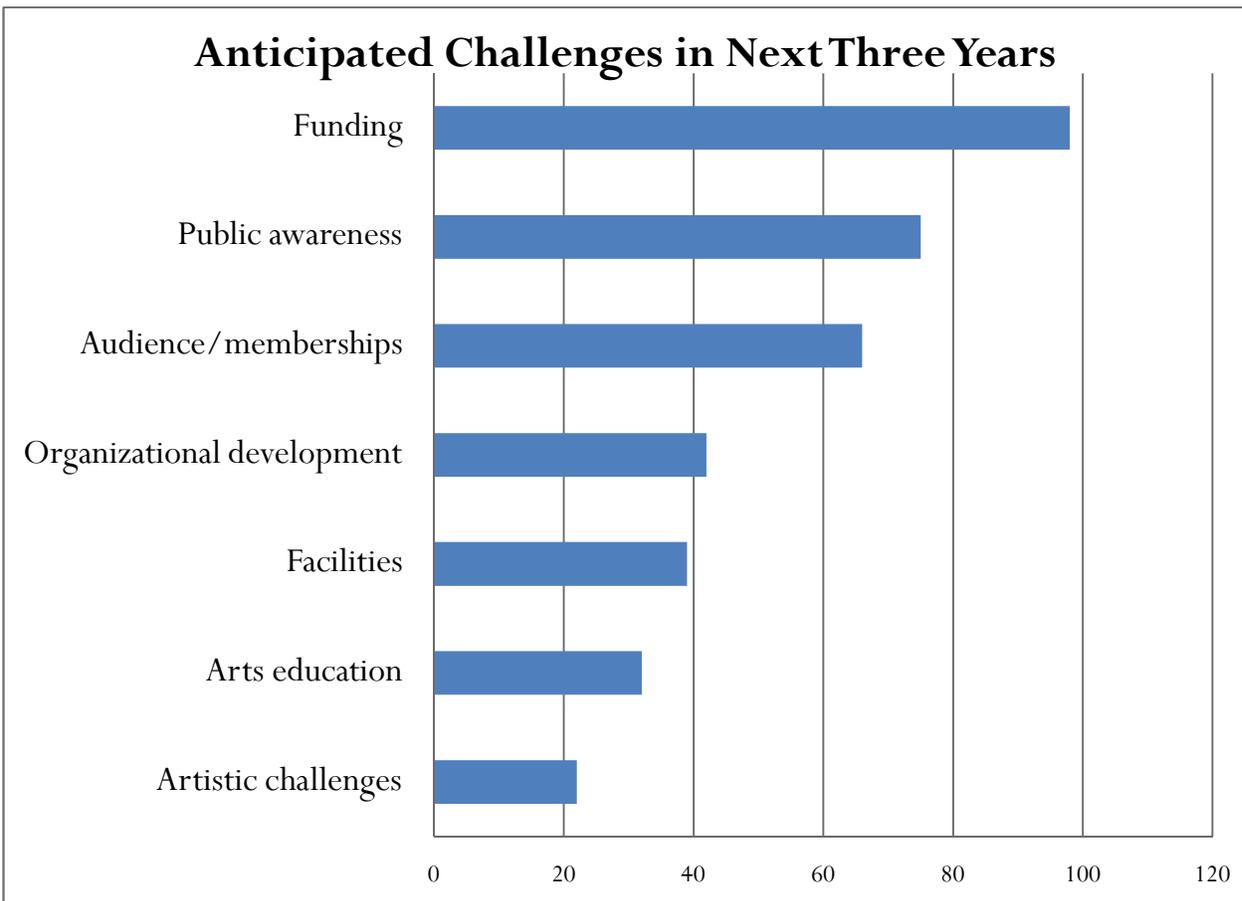
Financial stability – keeping the bills paid and/or growing	72	58%
Arts education – creating new programs or sustaining existing arts education programs	40	32%
Community partnerships – build collaborations with other arts and community sectors	44	35%
Facility development – maintain, expand and/or build cultural facilities	32	26%
Organizational development – recruit and retain qualified board, staff, and volunteers	33	26%
Cultural tourism – promoting North Dakota cultural attractions to visitors	15	12%
Cultural planning – develop and/or implement community arts and cultural plans	15	12%
Technology – upgrade web site or integrate technology into outreach	16	13%

30. Anticipated challenges

Funding is by far the most frequently anticipated challenge in the next three years. Seventy-eight percent were concerned about inadequate revenues.

Public awareness – the challenge of awareness and appreciation was cited by 60% as an expected challenge. Nearly as many (53%) are concerned about audiences or memberships either declining or needing to be increased.

In general, cultural leaders were less concerned about facilities, arts education, or artistic quality.



30. If you represent an arts or cultural organization, what do you expect to be your three most significant challenges in the next three years? Please select the three most likely to give your organization trouble.

Funding -- concerns about inadequate revenues	98	78%
Public awareness -- challenge of awareness and appreciation	75	60%
Arts education -- need to increase educational programs or prevent cutbacks	32	26%
Audience/memberships -- concern for declining numbers or need to increase participation	66	53%
Organizational development -- recruiting board, staff, and/or volunteers	42	34%
Artistic challenges -- need to maintain or improve artistic quality	22	18%
Facilities -- need for maintenance, repair, or building	39	31%

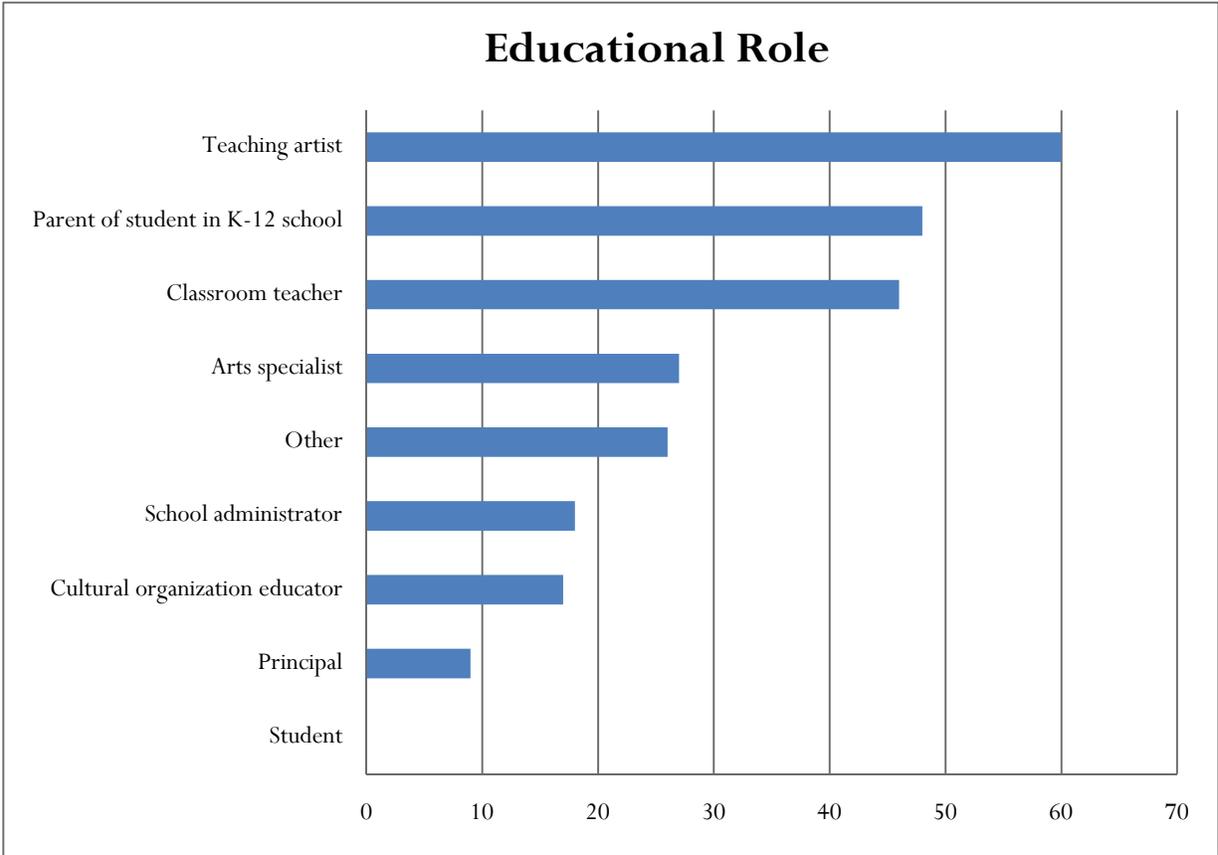
Questions for Educators

31. One hundred and seventy-five educators, teaching artists, and parents of K-12 students answered the following questions. Others were directed to skip this section.

31. Are you an educator, teaching artist, or parent of a K-12 student?		
Yes	175	43%
No	236	57%
Total	411	100%

32. Composition of educators responding

Teaching artists were the largest group of respondents (36%). Parents represented 29% of our sample of educators and 28% were classroom teachers. There were a few arts specialists, school administrators, principals, and cultural organization educators. There were no students in our sample.



32. What is your role in education? [please check all that apply]			
Classroom teacher		46	28%
Arts specialist		27	16%
Principal		9	5%
School administrator		18	11%
Parent of student in K-12 school		48	29%
Student		0	0%
Teaching artist		60	36%
Cultural organization educator		17	10%
Other		26	16%

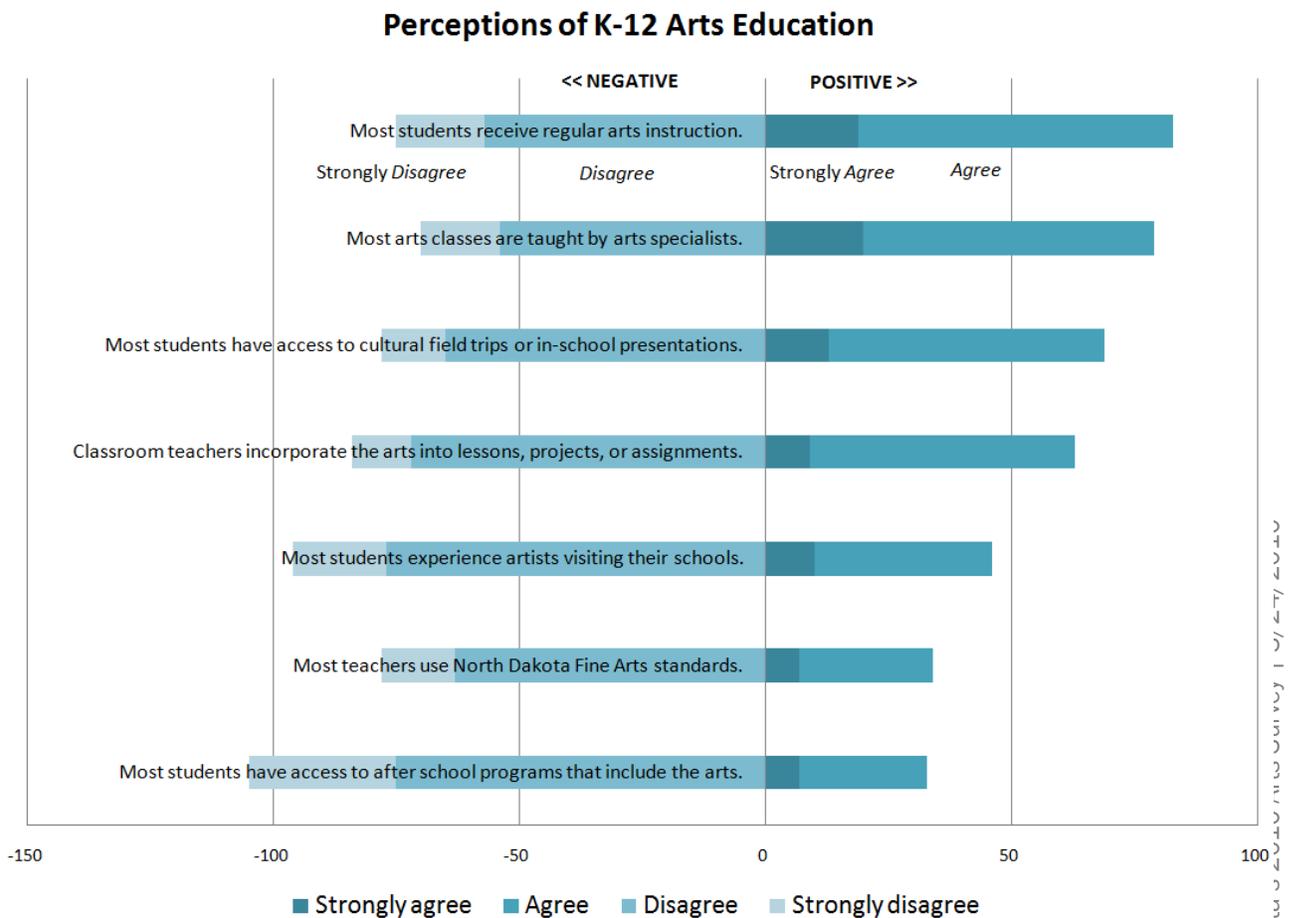
33. Perceptions of K-12 arts education

Educators' opinions of K-12 arts education was mixed and was generally more positive about the state of North Dakota arts education than the larger sample of all survey respondents. In general, negative perceptions prevail, though educators were equally split in believing that most students receive regular arts instruction and most arts classes are taught by arts specialists. More educators agreed with these statements than any others.

Slightly fewer educators believed that most students have access to cultural field trips or in-school cultural presentations or that classroom teachers incorporate the arts into lessons, projects, or assignments.

Even fewer educators believe that most students experience artists visiting their schools or that most teachers use North Dakota Fine Arts standards in their teaching. Few believe that most students have access to after school programs that include the arts.

The following chart illustrates the relative number of educators who disagree or agree with each statement. The top statements have the most agreement. The light bar to the far left represents strong disagreement; the center left bar indicates disagreement, the center right bar indicates strong agreement, and the far right bar indicates agreement with each statement. The following table provides details.

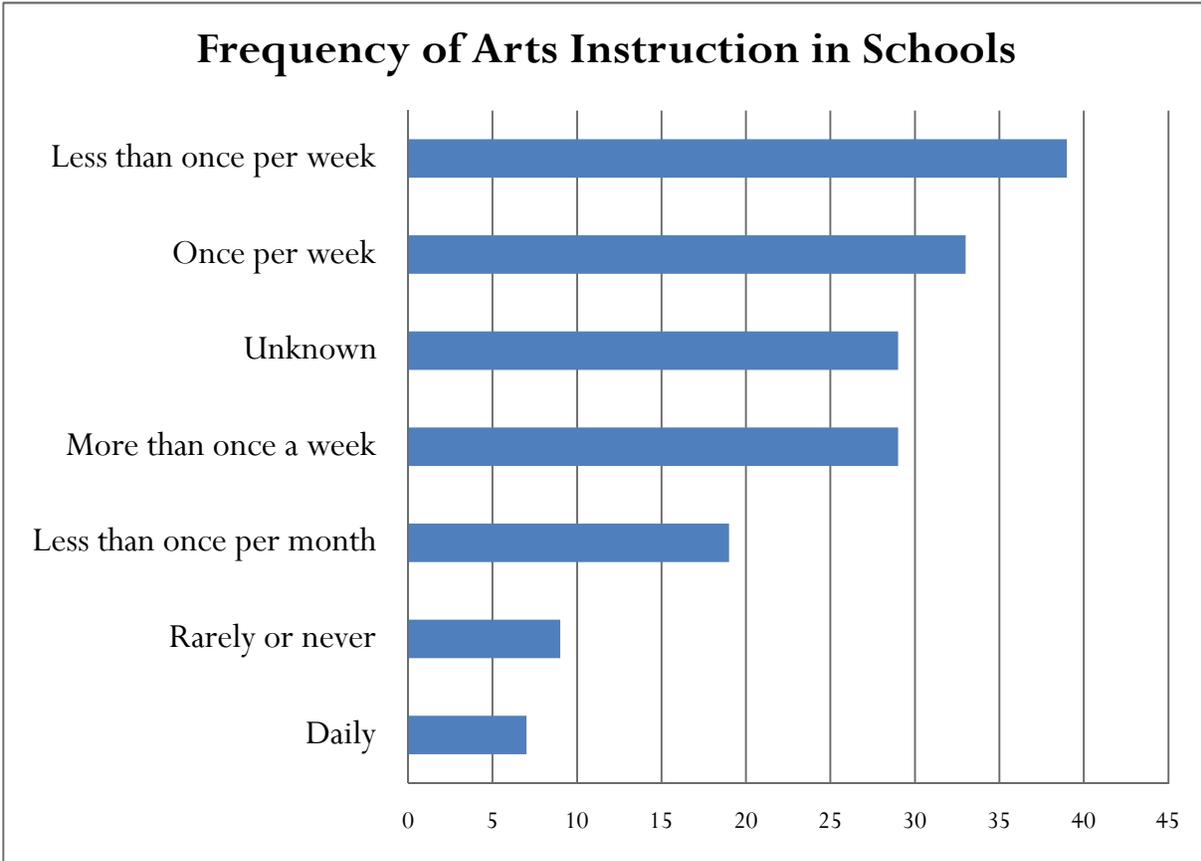


33. Do you agree with the following statements about K-12 arts education in the school with which you are most familiar?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	N/A, Unknown
Most students receive regular arts (music, visual art, dance, or theater) instruction.	19	64	57	18	8
	11%	39%	34%	11%	5%
Most arts classes are taught by arts specialists.	20	59	54	16	16
	12%	36%	33%	10%	10%
Classroom teachers incorporate the arts into lessons, projects, or assignments.	9	54	72	12	19
	5%	33%	43%	7%	11%
Most teachers use North Dakota Fine Arts standards.	7	27	63	15	54
	4%	16%	38%	9%	33%
Most students have access to cultural field trips or in-school presentations.	13	56	65	13	19
	8%	34%	39%	8%	11%
Most students experience artists visiting their schools.	10	36	77	19	23
	6%	22%	47%	12%	14%
Most students have access to after school programs that include the arts.	7	26	75	30	28
	4%	16%	45%	18%	17%

34. Frequency of arts instruction in schools

The survey asked educators how often students experience arts instruction in their schools. Most often they believe this is less than once per week (24%). Slightly fewer educators (20%) report students experience art once per week. Eighteen percent report arts experiences more than once a week. A few (12%) report students experience art in school less than once per month and a very few report this happens rarely or never (5%).



34. How frequently do most students experience arts instruction in their school? Please pick the one best answer.			
Daily		7	4%
More than once a week		29	18%
Once per week		33	20%
Less than once per week		39	24%
Less than once per month		19	12%
Rarely or never		9	5%
Unknown		29	18%
Total		165	100%

35. What is working well to provide North Dakota K-12 students with a good arts education?

64 Responses

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Arts teachers, support to teachers (cited by 11 educators and parents)
- ❖ NDCA Artist in Residence program (8)
- ❖ Standards (6)
- ❖ Cultural organization partners to schools (5)
- ❖ Unknown (5)
- ❖ NDCA grants (4)
- ❖ Urban schools are doing better than rural with arts education (4)
- ❖ Elementary school arts programs (4)
- ❖ Comprehensive arts education programs do better (3)
- ❖ Music education (3)
- ❖ Summer and after-school programs (3)
- ❖ Little or nothing works (3)
- ❖ Arts specialists working with classroom teachers (2)
- ❖ Teaching artists (2)

36. What could be improved in North Dakota K-12 arts education?

79 Responses

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Employ arts specialists in more schools or in every school (cited by 23 educators and parents)
- ❖ Provide students with more arts education opportunities (11)
- ❖ Advocate for public support of arts education (10)
- ❖ Enforce state standards for time on instruction (7)
- ❖ More funding for arts education (7)
- ❖ Professional development for teachers (4)
- ❖ Enhance opportunities for rural schools (4)
- ❖ More arts enrichment experiences (4)
- ❖ Increase arts teacher salaries (3)
- ❖ More after-school and out-of-school arts opportunities (2)
- ❖ Integrate the arts more fully throughout education (2)
- ❖ Strengthen arts education in middle and high schools (2)

37. What do you most value about North Dakota Council on the Arts?

220 Responses

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Grants, financial assistance (cited by 75)
- ❖ Information (46)
- ❖ Advocacy, promotion of the arts (33)
- ❖ Staff, accessible and responsive (30)
- ❖ Leadership of the state arts community (20)
- ❖ Networking, connection with the state's arts community (16)
- ❖ That the NDCA exists to serve (15)
- ❖ Help or training (12)
- ❖ Encouragement and support (6)
- ❖ Focus on folk arts and Native arts (4)
- ❖ Great resource (4)
- ❖ Unknown or N/A (4)

38. What would you suggest that the North Dakota Council on the Arts change or improve?

169 Responses

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ No suggestions for improvement (cited by 21)
- ❖ Unknown, N/A (21)
- ❖ Good job, keep up the good work (19)
- ❖ Secure more funding for the arts (14)
- ❖ Increase NDCA visibility (13)
- ❖ Strengthen advocacy and promotion (13)
- ❖ More advocacy and support for arts education (12)
- ❖ Offer more support to individual artists (8)
- ❖ Achieve more equity in funding for different sectors (8)
- ❖ Improve the NDCA website (6)
- ❖ More training opportunities (3)
- ❖ Convene and facilitate networking (3)
- ❖ Stress rural arts (2)
- ❖ Use more technology in communications (2)
- ❖ Visit us (2)
- ❖ Develop the NDCA board (2)

39. Do you have any other suggestions for the North Dakota Council on the Arts as we update our strategic plan?

132 Responses

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ No suggestions (similar comments from 44)
- ❖ Keep up the good work, thank you (13)
- ❖ Get more funding (4)
- ❖ Strengthen support to individual artists (4)
- ❖ Enhance advocacy (3)
- ❖ Focus on supporting local groups (2)
- ❖ Balance support for the arts statewide (2)
- ❖ Organize artists' health insurance (2)
- ❖ Improve the NDCA website (2)

All Comments to Open-ended Questions

Question 10: Is there information you wish to see on the NDCA website, www.nd.gov/arts that you don't find?

Repeated comments

- ❖ No, nothing (cited by 15)
- ❖ Individual artists listing, profiles, contact information (7)
- ❖ More information on Native Americans (2)

All comments

- Advocacy materials that can be printed and/or emailed.
- Are there performers you would not support?
- Artist profiles, list of art museums/galleries, map of artist's locations
- AS of now no
- Available North Dakota Artists
- didn't know about the website
- Don't use it
- found most of it.
- I am able to find the information I need.
- I don't always understand how to fill out the budget and get it to balance.
- I have been doing art and music for over 30 years and I still have a difficult time finding outlets for my work. It would be nice to see articles that may help direct artists towards places interested in new art or music.
- I have never been there before.
- I haven't visited it enough to know - sorry
- I see a lot of great things about advocacy and education, but I would like to see more info for professional artists. Perhaps resources even resources for artists like info about continuing ed, exhibition opportunities, etc.
- I would like to find a way to include the ArtistsND idea as the marketing and "meet the artist" part of CulturePulse. This effort would work very well with cultural tourism promotion and visiting artists.
- I'm not yet familiar with the site
- It is fine for me.
- I've not used the site before, but it is not visually appealing at all. It wouldn't be one I'd be drawn to use.
- K-12 art programs should be mandatory in every school in our state. We are not meeting standards if we don't. Music is required in the elementary schools, but art isn't. This makes no sense. Some of our schools in the state don't have art classes. How are these schools meeting state and national standards.
- listing of artists in the state...just by media and contact information
- Listings of local artists or groups not necessarily linked to formal or state organizations.
- Maybe a listing of other events like our organization so we can see what others have to offer. Like a network.
- Mission Statement should be first, then description of the org
- More art and information related to people's with disabilities
- more attention needs to be paid to Promoting the self educated emerging artists on the scene (the little guy is being overlooked)
- More focus/promotion of local art events and galleries.

- More for homeschoolers
- MORE Native American involvement!
- more on artists available for exhibitions and workshops they teach
- more support and promoting individual artists. More support for working artists
- More visual representations of funded projects/artists, a better showcase.
- N/A
- n/a
- N/A
- N/A
- NA
- na at this time need to go to my notes and don't have with me
- ND Artists gallery not finished for a long time.
- Need more cultural descriptions and contacts within the state that would be available to help the requestor..
- New grant funding opportunities that are available for individual artists. Workshops that help individual artists and their work.
- no
- No.
- no.
- None comes to mind
- None that I can think of.
- Not at this time. I have always been able to find what I need. Thanks for doing a great job!
- not yet
- Nothing I can think of at this time.
- possibly feature articles with how-to's for community arts--could be administration related or related to the arts---would be great to have some online classes and meetings
- Pretty well laid out.
Easy to locate information, once you locate website.
- Probably more diversity of media and rural artisans. We need to get more youthful exposure and seek out their opinions and insights...transferred onto web-sites that oldsters, like myself, can get access to.
- research data in arts education. What the arts do for children?
- SEEMS TO COVER MOST EVERYTHING.
- Since I've really not been to the website, I'm not qualified to answer this.
- sorry but I have only learned about this website from this survey.
- The overall appearance seems a bit dated. Perhaps even using more contemporary fonts would make it seem more appealing to a younger crowd.
- The state of North Dakota has a large Native American population with wonderful artists, yet the web site lacks information about this segment of the population.

- There is a substantial conflict between "for" profit orgs and not-for-profit orgs. The latter is given sizable attention and funding whereas the former has mostly to fend for itself. That is an error that undermines the Arts in ND!
- There is no help for artists in ND for obtaining health insurance at a reduced rate.
- traveling exhibits heritage museum
- update links and contact information. Almost nothing on the site is current or useful.
- Used art equipment offered.
- Usually I have found what I like to see on there.
- Wasn't able to find a staff directory with phone numbers to individuals.
- Yes, make the questions on surveys such as this with space where I can write my answers. I don't fill in blanks, check forms and put dots in circles. I have learned to write over the years and I prefer to write answers, even 'keyboard' them on these electronic hellboxes. Anything but filling in pre-designed layouts.
- You folks have a great web site, which I use as a teaching aid as well as providing people with options to consider. Can't think of much you could make better on it. 6StringStu ;-)

Question 22: What, if anything, would help you as an artist working in North Dakota?

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Marketing help (cited by 12 artists)
- ❖ Public education, awareness, and support (10)
- ❖ Grants or loans (9)
- ❖ Access to exhibitions (5)
- ❖ Professional development training (5)
- ❖ Networking, especially online (4)
- ❖ Affordable health care (2)
- ❖ Access to performance venues (2)
- ❖ Grants for studio improvements (2)
- ❖ Web site development (2)

All comments

- Ability to travel and research oil field history in North Dakota.
- ACCESS TO AREA SHOWS AND PROGRAMS.WEBSITE LINKING.
- Access to more adequate art education and networking! I want to finish my art history masters but nothing is available in ND. No art history courses above 200 are offered online. Independent study classes are a no-go because instructors are not paid for them. No graduate-level art history or visual arts studio courses are offered in Summer Sessions, when working people can take them. Requests to universities to approve independent artist workshops for credit go unanswered, let alone rejected. If you want to improve the visual arts presence in North Dakota, support your artists. This includes opportunities for further education and training as ARTISTS. Don't get me going on networking. I don't feel as though I should have to join a political organization, such as yourselves, in order to meet other artists.
- Actual support/marketing by state and local agencies.
- Additional individual artist grants
- Affordable health care - I have carried my own for 25 years but the costs of it is becoming burdensome - especially with the economic downturn. I am in danger of having to let it go, now when I will need it the most!

- as American Indian Traditional Artist
- As an aging potter I'd like to see small grants made which would allow me to up-date my studio for health and mobility. For instance: a de-airing pugmill would help a lot with arthritis issues, but they're very expensive.
- Awareness of all opportunity within and without the state, including grants, conferences and exhibitions. Greater reciprocity within our region of states allowing ND artists to affiliate with arts orgs and benefit from opportunities in large metro centers, as Mpls.
- Better Net-working on line with other ceramists, painters, and artisans in the state of ND
- consistent job with regular salary
- Continued availability of grants to schools and conferences where artists could have exhibit booths and showcase what they do.
- continued support from NDCA, help in marketing and training opportunities , access to funding, health insurance opportunities, increased networking and performance outlets
- Educating the public as to why handmade objects (like pottery) are different than something one can purchase at Wal-Mart. There needs to be an added 3-D component to all the high school art programs in our state to assist with this. At my high school in Grand Forks, we only did 2D work. Makes it hard to sell work as a 3D artist in the state b/c people don't have any background experience with it.
- education to the general public process to get to the final project
- For the public to realize there are places to buy original artwork in galleries and shops around the state. More awareness that there are so many neat things out there made by hand that is available. I don't think it occurs to the general public-it easier to go to Hobby Lobby and buy a poster or cheaply made decoration instead.
- Getting a loan to help advance my career even with poor credit rating.
- Getting the people of ND to realize how many good artists we have in this state, to realize that they are not paying the artists the proper price at silent auctions, instead of always trying to get a deal.
- Grants between the NDCA individual artist fellowship and the Bush Fellowship.
- grants or funding for technology advances
- Greater access to markets outside my region & fighting the isolation of being a ND artist.
- Greater funding for more additional staff and collaborative artists.
- Having more buyers within the state. Most of my work is sold out of state on the east coast.
- Help in locating display space, galleries, etc. Also help in locating Artist in Residencies in the area, not just North Dakota, discussion meetings with other artists. Have the Board and Practices Board accept out of state institution transcripts and degrees.
- I am a New York City artist who lived in North Dakota for 6 months in 2008
- I am VERY satisfied with the support I've received from NDCA. The area of help that I need remains the same for the past 10 years: an outdoor shelter to build and house a gas kiln.
- I do not work in North Dakota
- I have a dream of working in an art gallery all day with other artists by teaching, selling and having seminars to help market and share expenses.
- I make less than 8K annually working as a full time artist. In the past, I have had other support from other sources. This oncoming year, I will have nothing. I am worried that I cannot keep my program going. It would also help me if there were funds available for musical instruments for my students and more scholarships.
- I need more connections. I'm wallowing up here in the boonies and would prefer to participate more in the artist's programs. My dream is to quit teaching and become more involved in my art, but for now, I have to continue teaching as an income. Thanks.

- I would like to see an "operation intern" program, (like the commerce department offers to business) for the arts. Giving young artists the opportunities to work in professional studios as assistants, and having the opportunity to work on their own development as well.
- Increased public awareness, in particular more government awareness of the importance of art on growing communities
- It's about an attitude here that pertaining to pricing of art work. Many people go to art auctions and hope the bidding is low so they can get a good piece of work for "cheap." Sometimes that attitude extends into the market place thinking artists need "experience" more than cash. I have had to confront a Dr., who requested a discount whether he would discount his services. I made a point and held onto my pricing, but it is an attitude that exists here. We don't have the luxury of tourist hotbeds such as Santa Fe.
- Lower fuel prices
- marketing
- marketing
- Marketing coops.
- More access to training on ways to market my talents best.
- More interest in the arts. Local Support. Intellectual thought
- More opportunities to show and especially to sell artwork.
- More performance venues for classical musicians.
- More regional exposure. I have received a lot of exposure locally, but would like to expand into other areas of the state.
- More shows and public awareness.
- more tourism
- My husband retiring from the Air Force so I could actually be there.
- North Dakota government and businesses using more ND art as gifts and promotions.
- Opportunities to market and sell work. Directory of artists made available to related industries or interested parties...not just online. Could be just business cards listed under categories like in a phone book.
- People need to know the importance of art in their lives and to support artists by BUYING their work!
- publicity
- Support in increasing exposure and interest. Major "competitors" are school sports activities that deplete Arts audience attendances. Parents teach attending sports but rarely bring children to "cultural" events. If schools have weak programs, how are the Arts able to reach out to educate? Street theatre is viable only five months of the year! Thanks for asking questions!
- Support the local (North Dakota) artists instead of bringing in "outside" artists.
- technology grants
- To be accepted for my media
- Training in business aspects of being an artist
- transportation-storage of tools materials
- website
- Website development and hosting multi-state exhibits of woodworking...to include a large presence of First Nation talent. I see very little of that on a national level. First Nation talent would be a hallmark of N.D. I say that as a white guy who isn't seeing much exposure of First Nation work. Their approaches of design and work are so worthy of study.
- Workshops or retreats that provided education about the business side of being a working artist. More grants for project-based work.

Question 35: What is working well to provide North Dakota K-12 students with a good arts education?

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Arts teachers, support to teachers (cited by 11 educators and parents)
- ❖ NDCA Artist in Residence program (8)
- ❖ Standards (6)
- ❖ Cultural organization partners to schools (5)
- ❖ Unknown (5)
- ❖ NDCA grants (4)
- ❖ Urban schools are doing better than rural with arts education (4)
- ❖ Elementary school arts programs (4)
- ❖ Comprehensive arts education programs do better (3)
- ❖ Music education (3)
- ❖ Summer and after-school programs (3)
- ❖ Little or nothing works (3)
- ❖ Arts specialists working with classroom teachers (2)
- ❖ Teaching artists (2)

All comments

- ????
- A program that exposes students to all of the arts
- AIR
- Art standards are important because the schools pay attention to meeting adequate yearly progress.
- Artist in Residence program
- Artist in Residence program
- Artist in residency program.
- Artist in the Schools program, but it cannot make up for no arts programming...
- Artists in Residence Programs
- At this point not a lot. It is too hit and miss. Some students in some areas get a lot and some get nothing
- continued availability of grant funds support and training provided by NDCA, SALT, Artists in Training
- don't know
- elementary level has good exposure to visual arts
- elementary music
- Financial support from the Arts Council
- Grand Forks has artists in the classroom and there are statewide artist's residencies in schools. Middle school opportunities for students need beefing up. Some rural arts programs are very successful but hugely costly in time and money.
- Grants to teachers to incorporate art instruction in the classroom.
- Highly qualified arts instructors and resources for them. We just need more of them in our schools
- Hiring more art instructors for every classroom
- I am not in the school system
- I can only speak for Fargo since I am an elementary art teacher in the public schools. Our k-5 students have a scheduled weekly art class with me. The art teachers meet weekly to crystallize our curriculum.

- I really do not know if anything is working well.
- I teach on the university level so I cannot answer all of these K-12 questions.
- I'm not sure. In Divide county the access is somewhat limited
- In a class A school, there seems to be opportunities to participate. I'd like to see a greater variety of classes offered though.
- In our district, the arts specialist works with the classroom teacher to develop curriculum related projects. This allows all students to have access to high quality art projects.
- Inviting in teaching Artists
- K-5 teachers are interested in providing art instruction.
- Larger schools have a hired art teacher.
- local museums like the Taube
- most teachers in the system are well educated and dedicated
- Music arts is in the curriculum more strongly in rural and urban areas. Visual arts in rural areas is definitely lacking. Viable arts education programs in large urban areas and rural areas are lacking throughout the states. The visual arts and dance teach Century 21 skills in thinking, problem solving, organization, creativity, and analysis yet the pale in comparison to the structure of music. Summer programs in theater in the larger urban centers definitely promote theater and dance, but programs in all elementary schools for art, dance, music, and theater should be pushed and built.
- music education in K - 5 - vocal, in larger cities string and band and vocal programs
- Music programs seem to be very much supported in most districts. Districts that are committed to the visual arts and have art specialists in their schools.
- My children attend a catholic school where the arts are integrated more frequently then public schools and one determining factor in choosing that educational route.
- no idea
- North Dakota Council on the Arts, ND Heritage Center and other Artist organizations.
- Not sure
- Nothing. Funding is not there for the students to receive instruction from a certified art teacher. There needs to be less emphasis on the computer and more on the ability to think with higher lever thinking skills, able to work with others, need to learn about other cultures and communities, and need to be able to have avenues to express their thoughts and feelings in a less violent manner as in the visual and performing arts.
- Our arts council and city tourism recognize the importance of art and have brought in as many artists as we can afford. We invite the entire region's students to all of our varied art shows.
- our local director has been doing a great job in getting things into the area
- Our school has full time music and art teachers which gives students access to learning about the arts on a weekly basis.
- Outside of your largest cities, which have the political will to promote the arts, not much. 1) Art must be valued in order to be supported by local school boards. No support, no art. 2) Believe me, teachers and instructors have so much to do with keeping student performance up to standards that there is extremely little time, energy or money left for anything else. Get out of the wealthy school districts of Bismarck and Fargo and get yourselves into the field, into the smaller school districts, and see for yourselves. It's not just the money or lack of instructors or lack of political will (well, maybe it IS the latter....)but there simply isn't enough time in the day to adequately cover all required subjects and ensure that no child is left behind. The problem is larger and more complex, as is the solution to the teaching arts dilemma.
- Programs in bigger metro areas (especially summer offerings), but I am concerned that there is little access for students in rural communities.
- regular classroom music instruction by qualified music teachers
Artist-in-Resident programming

- Requirements for a ND high school diploma now require credits attained through fine arts/foreign language coursework; however, I question the quality of coursework if it is offered through the ITV system.
- School districts which feel that art is important and a "core" subject: that mentality... "back-to-the-basics" can be harmful and short-sighted.
- Setting standards. Continuing dialogue to improve standards. Bringing in guest artists for those that are not given weekly instruction.
- Some communities have funding for arts education but not all.
- State arts standards. If it is treated as important as other basics, local efforts to meet those standards should have a positive impact.
- Students need to have art k-12 to have a well rounded education.
- SUMMERTIME ART CLASSES AND SHOWS.
- teacher education
- The Artist in Residency Program.
- The elementary school students get regular art education. They have a regular art teacher that follows the benchmarks and standards for arts.
- The fact that there are ND Visual Arts Standards.
- The promotion of the arts in education and the push to incorporate the arts into the core disciplines.
- The schools I teach art at receive an excellent visual art education because I am an art teacher, K-12, and an artist.
- The schools that have an arts education program are doing quite well. The problem is, those schools in ND that do not offer a comprehensive arts program.
- There appears to be a strong drive to get students out on field trips or to see a visiting artist, but not all students are required to participate. At the high school level, not all students are required to complete art classes of any sort.
- Up here, it isn't. Teachers need more motivation & training. After-school is more artsy-craftsy. Artists are needed.
- Visiting artists
- We have an art instructor who works part time in the elementary school.
- What has worked well in our community is having arts available through community arts organizations. Our district has a few extremely talented arts teachers on staff--however, their skills are undervalued and really "unknown" by administration

Question 36: What could be improved in North Dakota K-12 arts education?

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Employ arts specialists in more schools or in every school (cited by 23 educators and parents)
- ❖ Provide students with more arts education opportunities (11)
- ❖ Advocate for public support of arts education (10)
- ❖ Enforce state standards for time on instruction (7)
- ❖ More funding for arts education (7)
- ❖ Professional development for teachers (4)
- ❖ Enhance opportunities for rural schools (4)
- ❖ More arts enrichment experiences (4)
- ❖ Increase arts teacher salaries (3)
- ❖ More after-school and out-of-school arts opportunities (2)

- ❖ Integrate the arts more fully throughout education (2)
 - ❖ Strengthen arts education in middle and high schools (2)
- A balanced approach in enforcing success with standards across the board.
 - A coordinated effort that brings at least one artist-in-residence program to every school annually.
 - Across the board arts involvement. More than music. art classes, theatre classes, for all grades
 - additional funding and additional hiring of University trained Art Educators
 - All teachers-to-be should have extensive arts training in their college. I believe understanding art is the first step towards incorporating it into the classroom and ultimately into our lives.
 - ALLOWING THE STUDENTS ACCESS TO AT LEAST ONE ART COURSE IN THE SCHOOLS.
 - An art survey to all the children in the schools and their parents to participate.
 - Arts specialists in all elementary schools
 - Better salaries for better teachers
 - Compare and contrast other arts educational systems in the region, nationally, or internationally. For instance, the national temperament of many nations places educators as a HIGHLY respected profession. The United States does not...nor are the teacher ed. requirements as difficult to achieve. In Finland all educators have a Masters Degree and very stiff competition for jobs. "Art on a Cart" works...and music programs seem to be holding. The AIR program is a great asset to the state's arts education.
 - Concerted, ongoing arts programming.
 - Continue to fund the rural visiting artists
 - Daily visual arts instruction and exposure to professional level artists and the amateur artists of their community.
 - Do not have application deadlines of April and November open it up so that schools and presenters can submit grant applications for arts in education artists at any time, year round on a first come first serve until the dollars run out.
 - For high school and middle school students the art education is not provided regularly. Many have no access to arts in their daily lives. The opportunities for these students should be improved.
 - Giving artist to be staged at once a year, sending them to schools to apart with different form art and cultures.
 - Go back to the grassroots. Nothing happens without local political will, without changing basic attitudes towards the arts in North Dakota.
 - Grant writing workshops; teaching educators how to apply for the grants...
Explaining how a residency works, etc
Bi-annual or quarterly Q and A sessions on these topics or others
 - Have full time art teachers in the schools so students can go to art class just like they go to music class
 - Having more time with certified artists. The classroom teachers do not have time to investigate the arts and their implications in our daily lives. They have enough on their plate to cover the areas that so far are mandated by the state. The students need to have more arts education and time to learn the abilities that they have. They need to be given the time and instruction to produce their own work other than coping what the teacher has put before them. When our students learn about the arts and what it has done for our future, they will understand where they have come from and where they are going. They also need to find avenues to express themselves in a number of learning environments, other than reading and writing. We need to use more learning styles in our schools and teaching.
 - Higher salaries so more artists would go into art education

- Hiring arts specialists for the pre-middle school grades.
Working w/ the legislature to require schools to offer arts education beyond music ed.
Working to require an arts credit for High school graduation
Although Artist in residence is a great program too many schools are using it as a band aid approach to the arts rather than as a supplement to a strong program.
- I am not that familiar with this program to comment
- I would like to see my students getting more than 50 minutes of visual art a week. I would like time to collaborate with the classroom teachers, but they are currently encountering yearly curriculum changes that allow little time to brainstorm ideas with me. In rural North Dakota I suspect there is not a certified visual art teacher in every school. ND is missing an opportunity for its students by not having more aggressive focus on visual arts education.
- If the public schools are not willing to arrange the students' schedules and requirement to make arts education easier or mandatory, there needs to be recognition of those students, educators, and programs that exist outside of the public school system as a way for students to get arts credits.
- In West Fargo there is only 1 elementary art specialist servicing the entire school district. This means that one teacher is servicing over 2,500 students and k-5 students receive 45 mins of art once every 7 weeks. State mandated arts time needs to be enforced far better.
- Increase push for equity with other subjects. Focus on the importance of the arts in preparing students with 21st century skills.
- Increased student involvement with traditional arts, theater and dance specialists in the schools. More arts field trip opportunities for students.
- It needs to be IMPORTANT in the lives of the parents and surrounding community. It is not considered necessary or something to be encouraged in the lives of the students at this time in my opinion.
- Local administration considers all arts programs a frill--have turned down opportunities or discouraged students from attending arts events--needs to be requirements to meet higher standards and give proof of compliance. There should also be building standards for performance and studio spaces and schools should provide.
- Make as many opportunities for students to get daily arts education as possible...during school year and in the summer. Fund more visiting artists (money is always a problem at our school.) Allow teachers to write off more personal funds spent in their class on their taxes...do not allow the DPI to increase credits for renewal in a state that has few classes available for arts educators in the summer when teachers can take the classes...this is going to hurt teacher retention. Help the DPI to understand that many opportunities for art educators to increase their experience and knowledge DO NOT come from the colleges--very poor offerings the last dozen years or so. I hate online classes--we want classes which involves practical, hands-on experiences for our students...just cannot find those in the state any more. Join the National Arts Education Association--have a state agency or at least meetings for art educators so we can get together and advocate. Sponsor shows for just the art educators...those of us who are trying to be both educator and artist but have only summers to really create ourselves. Promote contemporary artists in the state...not just Native American or historical...Gifts to each school for the art room without having to 'apply' or fight other schools for it...make use of retired art teachers...bet they would be willing to earn some extra income visiting schools...does not always have to be for special projects but just the basic art lessons. (I love to teach perspective but many art teachers do not for example) GET US TOGETHER during the times of the year when winter driving is not a concern!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Making arts extracurricular activities as accessible as SPORTS. There's always some dumb sport that follows the next. Maybe they could squeeze, say, sculpting after school in the day between football and basketball, or in the 2 days between basketball and wrestling...

- Making school districts accountable for the state mandated art instructional time for elementary schools working with an art specialist.
- Mandatory Visual Art Specialists K-12 in each school. Visual Art more than once or twice a week.
- Meetings/Conferences where artists can talk to school representatives about incorporating the arts into the curriculum
- more
- More art across the curriculum.
- more art educators
- More art opportunities need to be put in place in the rural schools to create equitable learning for ALL students. The ARTS still have to struggle in the 21st Century with more importance placed on core curriculum within school districts, state and federal mandates.
- More art teachers. More experiences for students. Artist mentors for students.
- More arts ideas that go with the academic curriculum.
- More awareness of programs that bring arts into schools. For schools who are not aware of tour programs to get materials generated/disseminated by the NDCA
- More funding for smaller schools that can't afford to pay music and art teachers.
- More Funding for supplies
- More in the way of workshops and incentives for teachers to learn and use the standards and how to integrate them into the curriculum.
- more information from the arts council
- More integration of arts throughout all K-12 education, in all communities.
- More interaction with professional artists; for students & facility.
- More on the outside. More for homeschoolers as well. We used to be in public school and there wasn't much in the classrooms a couple of years ago.
- More opportunities for students who plan to make the arts their career; more challenging musical opportunities, especially.
- More recognition of art educators and their impact on the things schools are working on...i.e. standardized test scores, etc.
- more regular funding
- more rural activity...visiting artists
- more schools using the program, Artists in Residence
- Motivation & pay.
- Music and art should not have to compete for students. i.e. 7th grade you do one or the other but not able to fit both in schedule due to curriculum demands. Continue to educate teachers to combine art into their experiences. Better educate parents about the success of doing it that way and make them a partner.
- Not sure
- offer dance in the schools
- Offer more workshops to classroom teachers that give them lessons and concrete ideas to take back to their classrooms.
- Orchestra teachers and music (it's too easy) at middle school level could be better.
- Our school has a k-12 art program with professional art instructors teaching the classes. I believe in order for schools to meet state and national art standards every school should have this.
- Require Art education specialist for k-12
- Required for graduation by the state mandated arts Ed with qualified instructors for elementary schools.
- requiring more art education by qualified teachers

- Schools need supplies and teachers who are knowledgeable in arts education.
- Seems to end after grade six in public schools. How is that impacting involvement at the middle school and/or high school level?
- Smaller schools having a coop art teacher?
- Some schools do not have an art teacher.
- State supervision by the Dept of Education that mandates all schools offer a complete music and arts program.
- The primary theatre teacher at my school has no higher education training in the discipline. I'd like to see instructors who teach Theatre Arts held to the same "highly qualified" standards that other fine arts teachers are expected to meet.
- The schools need adequate funding and leaders who understand the importance of arts education in the development of children. For Native American children, the arts should include exposure to their own artists as well as others.
- There is a lack of time, resources, and instructors.
- To convince school boards that art education helps the student in all of their academic studies - music and math for example, and reading and working with clay.
- To have art specialists in grades 1-12. Our district only has art 7-12
- Trained Art Educators in each classroom 2- 3 x per week.
- Training for teachers on applying for and receiving teacher incentive grants and educating teachers on the true value of the arts in education
- Viable visual arts education for k-12 taught by art educators. Dance and theater k-12, music has inroads and structure already and seems to be thriving statewide. Bring the others up to that level.
- We need educators trained in the arts and geared towards nourishing the appetite for expression that these young minds possess.
- Well, wouldn't it be great if art was a subject like any other? Or if art was even half as important as sports?

Question 37: What do you most value about North Dakota Council on the Arts?

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ Grants, financial assistance (cited by 75)
- ❖ Information (46)
- ❖ Advocacy, promotion of the arts (33)
- ❖ Staff, accessible and responsive (30)
- ❖ Leadership of the state arts community (20)
- ❖ Networking, connection with the state's arts community (16)
- ❖ That the NDCA exists to serve (15)
- ❖ Help or training (12)
- ❖ Encouragement and support (6)
- ❖ Focus on folk arts and Native arts (4)
- ❖ Great resource (4)
- ❖ Unknown or N/A (4)

All comments

- Assistance in developing grant applications and helping us understand the guidelines.
- Financially supporting arts programs in our area.

- ...financial support that is provided to individual artists and artist associations...
- A great resource for oh so many things
- Access to grants.
- Accessibility of the staff and the support for rural arts organizations and artists.
- access to help if needed
- advocacy
- Advocacy and Opportunity
- advocacy for the arts
- Advocacy work; grant funds
- advocacy, program support/funding, affiliation with NDAGA, the web page as a portal to relevant info
- Advocacy.
- All the information provided to help artists
- Arrange exhibit space and receptions around ND
- Arts advocacy
- Arts advocacy for all!
- availability of knowledgeable staff to answer questions
- Being the central point for information regarding the arts throughout the state.
- Connection with state happenings
- Consistent helpful attitude. Always there for the artists!
- Consistent support for all kinds of arts activities within the state. Operating support-IS grants very critical to many organizations.
- Continuing to work hard with the assets they have.
- encouragement received
- Event information
- financial support
- Financial support for arts in Ed and artist in the schools. also Poetry Out loud
- folklore emphasis
- Funding assistance for operations and programs.
- Funding opportunities
- Funding opportunities; informative website, newsletter and staff.
- funding support for arts projects for at risk populations of children
- Funding, collaboration, and peer conversations
- Funding, networking, information
- General resource on all things arts related in the state along with being a major funding source.
- Getting the general public to realize what a vital and vibrant Art community we have.
- Getting the word out and keeping artists updated on what is going on around the state.
- Good people working hard to better the arts in North Dakota.
- good resource
- Grant funds availability
- Grant opportunities
- Granting programs and accessibility of staff
- grants
- Grants
- grants

- Grants and information
- Grants and the support to complete the paperwork for them.
- Grants.
- Have not been involved until recently, with the development of an Art Gallery in my community.
- I am pleased at the exposure to the community of art, happy for the kids and grateful for our local chmn. C. Hart
- I appreciate how accessible everyone there is. I have received a lot of help from NDCA and I also appreciate the grant opportunities.
- I don't really know much about you
- I have received help in the past to attend the National Art Education Associations conventions...that was wonderful because my school district did not help.
- I really don't know much about it other than some very general observations.
- I take most advantage of the newsletters but the arts community services, funding and networking opportunities are invaluable to the state
- I think it's important to have a core group to coordinate activities & dispense information regarding the arts in North Dakota. The ND Council on the Arts definitely fulfills this need.
- I value all the staff and the programs that have been my training and reason to continue to grow and develop my arts education career.
- I value it as a supportive resource the website as a reference source.
- I value NDCA genuine care for the art life in North Dakota.
- I value the staff!! They are the most helpful group I have ever worked with!!
- I would like to use the website if it was ever accurate. I gave up trying to use it about a year ago.
- I'm not really sure how they are impacting my life. I would guess that promoting arts in the state would be their most pressing goal, as I don't really see 'art tourism' really catching on like prairie wildfire...
- I'm proud to be a member. It has enabled me to use my talents in various schools.
- I'm really glad it is there.
- Information
- information
- information
- information
- Information about art shows to enter and also grants that are available.
- Information on events and opportunities for artists.
- Information that joins people in the arts together
- information they provide
- Information they provide
- information, help with finances for school programs and individual programs
- Information, advocacy and quality programming.
- information, granting opportunities, networking
- Informative and helpful.
- Innovative staff members who encourage collaboration among arts groups and with other nonprofit organizations.
- Institutional Support Program, Professional Development Support Program, Project support, Consultant support
- Institutional support, artist support, resources and links.
- It has spurred me to pursue my art through the efforts of its representatives.

- It informs about what goes on in the arts in my state.
- It is our organization's very important source of funding.
- It provides a vehicle for supporting and promoting the arts in North Dakota.
- It recognizes the importance of the arts in everyday lives. Support for artists...advocacy, financial, and networking. They make me feel like I'm not all alone!
- It's a state-wide network
- It's commitment to traditional NATIVE American Arts initiatives.
- It's contribution to the arts communities.
- It's critical role in supporting and promoting the arts in ND.
- It's my major access to the world of art in ND, and allows me to keep interested-others informed of upcoming art events in their community(s).
- Its promotion of the arts
- I've had no contact with the council.
- Jan Webb
- Jan Webb
- Keeping a focus on art and acting as a leader for the arts community.
- Keeping artists and public informed about events and opportunities
- keeping me in the loop of information and opportunity
- Knowledge base.
- Linda Ehreth is an excellent liaison between the artist and the arts council. She graciously answers questions in a timely manner.
- marketing possibilities
- Master/Apprentice program
- monetary and leadership support for local organizations
- Most of my contact has been through our organization writing grants, and you've been very helpful to our main writer.
- N/A
- n/a
- N/A
- NDCA is the voice of North Dakota's arts organizations. Jan Webb and her staff are great to work with. She is such a great resource for our state.
- NDCA's commitment, dedication and support to artists and arts organizations; NDCA efforts to keep current with advancing technologies; arts networking
- networking and information
- Networking, grants
- not sure
- nothing
- openness to grow and change
- Opportunity in obtaining information
- Promote the arts in the community.
- Promoting all new comers to share their art and culture. This challenging job NDCA is doing.
- Promoting and funding the arts as a critical component of public and individual quality of life.
- Promoting arts awareness, especially among children.
- Provides arts awareness to the community.

- Resources provided through the development of Culturepulse and funding provided through Institutional Support.
- saving old art forms
- Simply put, it's the financial support the council distributes to our local organizations, particularly in K-12 and colleges for educational events.
- Since I am new to this, I'm enjoying the apprenticeship program and being able to teach and receive a stipend.
- State advocacy, quality leadership, very approachable, in tune with local needs.
- State level organization promoting the arts in ND
- State wide arts promotion and funding
- STATEWIDE ACCESS, ALLOWING RURAL AREAS TO HAVE A CHANCE AT SOME ACCESS TO THE STATE ARTS.
- support and training for young, gifted artists to pursue their skills
- Support Funding and a Resource for Arts Information
- support of staff and funding opportunities
- Supporting and promoting art. Especially individual artists.
- Supporting many avenues of the arts throughout the state.
- Teacher Incentive Art Grant
- That it exists -- we need to keep art in our sights
- That it exists and provides a framework for the future.
- That it exists!
- That it is a respected and known organization that is linking artists with other artists, but more importantly, to people who are not normally so connected to the arts.
- That it is the one stop shopping concept when it comes to the arts
- That it provides information on local art events and organizations/galleries.
- That it's there! And that it is hugely supportive to small towns and their interests in the arts.
- That there is even an arts council!
- That they are here at all, and do research/outreach to producers and consumers.
- That they exist to support the arts and that they keep the "arts" before the public and the schools. I also value your newsletter. It is very informative.
- That they support a variety of different art forms and artists and that they want schools and organizations to apply for grants and bring the art in.
- That this is an active ND Council of the Arts.
- That we actually have one.
- That when we needed assistance it was provided to us
- That you are there and doing what you do. I especially value the art opportunities for artists to teach in the schools, to receive grants (especially) and also to receive all of the e-mail notifications from Jan Webb about potential art opportunities.
- That you exist and are doing as much good work as you are doing, especially considering your very low staff numbers, the lowest I believe in the nation for any state arts council.
- The ability to access grants for Artist in Residence programs.
- The ability to go out to schools that have no certified art teacher on the staff. There need to be more residencies awarded.
- The ability to personally contact staff and get a response to questions quickly. Knowing who they are and what their portfolios are is extremely helpful.

- The ability to provide networking among arts organizations. Support through grants. Information about state arts groups and activities
- The acknowledgement of all art forms and recognition of the role of volunteers.
- The Availability of Exhibits, Music and Dance Performances, Lectures, Book Discussions, Adult Learning Possibilities.
- The availability of information. The willingness to provide grant info
- The availability of professional development grants and other aids.
- The awareness of the needs of rural and non-rural art organizations. The availability of the staff to help with any questions or concerns. Understanding the need of support from other government departments, such as tourism.
- The commitment and dedication of the staff in the pursuit of promoting art through the use of multiple avenues... The belief that art is essential to the learning process and a gift to everybody!
- The community of arts related activities that are built in support of the arts.
- The connection that the NDCA has worked to develop w/ the Arts community if ND.
- The council is there if I need to ask for help. The emailing of Art opportunities is appreciated and used by me. Most public meetings are events I won't attend for a number of reasons with hearing loss a main one. I do like the events I have been to.
- The Council is a good source of information. I was able to obtain a grant last year to attend the National Art Educators Association conference which was an exceptionally valuable experience. The organization is professionally run.
- The Council is in the forefront in promoting the Arts in North Dakota
- The council tries to support a variety of arts and artists.
- the fact that it exists
- The fact that there is one in this state and that they serve as an advocate for the arts.
- The fact that they exist and are trying to keep the arts alive and strong in NDakota.
The grant opportunities to bring in artists to a variety of venues such as Nursing homes
- The fact that we have a responsive, go to organization that understands and responds positively to our needs.
- The fact that you have grants available to help support our programming at Meadowlark Arts Council in Crosby, N. D.
- The funding it provides to further advance the arts in North Dakota.
- The funding that it provides for organizations such as the Flickertail Woodcarvers.
- The grant money available for all different art venues
- The grant opportunities for artists that are available through the council, and the various art opportunities that is in the e-newsletter.
- The granting programs. They offer the ability for small organizations a chance to get going.
- The grants that are available to our group.
- The help I have received to take workshops.
- The information and assistance
- The linking source for all artists
- The N.D. Council On The Arts, is the best system for keeping our citizens heritage, and culture alive!!!
- The NDCA is a strong voice and a strong support for all of us working with the ARTS.
- The Newsletter, able to call the main office if we have a question. The listing of events coming up by cities and towns.
- The offering of grant dollars to help bring artists in to schools
- The opportunities to participate in learning experiences.

- The programs and structure of having an organization that supports the arts and provides information and grants as needed.
- The public programming.
- The staff - they are always accessible and helpful
- The staff!!
- The staff, the programs, and the fact they are visible and viable in a state that does not have a discernable, historic "art" heritage like urban areas...or even Minnesota, for that matter!
- The support it gives to arts programs.
- The Traditional Folk Arts
- The workshops and artist in residence program.
- Their ability to help with funding and give ideas about the arts. The grant funding and help they are able or have been able to help our organization with funding the arts.
- Their commitment to bringing the arts to ALL North Dakotans.
- their continued efforts to support the arts
- Their financial support for artist's development
- Their funding of Prairie Public programs.
- Their funding programs and variety of artist roster.
- their promotion of the arts in north Dakota
- Their support in the arts and artists
- Their support of existing art organizations
- Their support of the arts in education.
- Their support, and of course our grants.
- They are a great effort to bring Artists quality education, grants and informational so needed in our rural economy
- They are accessible. Phone calls and e-mail questions are answered in a timely manner and with valuable suggestions.
- They are always willing to answer and help with questions. Clearly lead me as an artist and educator with ideas and navigating the system.
- They are cutting edge in a number of important areas and this leadership is vital to bringing along other ND art groups. They listen to the needs of especially the rural areas.
- They are fiscally sound and provide a broad generalized grant base.
- They gave me an opportunity to learn.
- They have been generous in the grants we have received.
- They provide me with the information I need to know as an art teacher, and as an artist.
- their ability to connect artists across cultural genres' for artist and community benefits
- Training and support
- Troyd Giest makes an effort to communicate with people on the four Indian reservations.
- Up to date information of what is happening in the arts world, grants, and the staff is always available for questions.
- Updates I get and the funding they provide to local artists and community art organizations of all kinds.
- Website to show samples of my work. Keep up to date on happenings in the Art World. Opportunities for shows.
- What it does to support arts for students in my community
- You have helped us with our special shows and to bring in artists.

- Your employees. They share a value of caring for the artist.

Question 38: What would you suggest that the North Dakota Council on the Arts change or improve?

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ No suggestions for improvement (cited by 21)
- ❖ Unknown, N/A (21)
- ❖ Good job, keep up the good work (19)
- ❖ Secure more funding for the arts (14)
- ❖ Increase NDCA visibility (13)
- ❖ Strengthen advocacy and promotion (13)
- ❖ More advocacy and support for arts education (12)
- ❖ Offer more support to individual artists (8)
- ❖ Achieve more equity in funding for different sectors (8)
- ❖ Improve the NDCA website (6)
- ❖ More training opportunities (3)
- ❖ Convene and facilitate networking (3)
- ❖ Stress rural arts (2)
- ❖ Use more technology in communications (2)
- ❖ Visit us (2)
- ❖ Develop the NDCA board (2)

All comments

- ...not certain...
- ?
- A little more recognition of the value of the rural areas and our artists.
- Add auto-message for events a quarter at a time.
- Additional staffing and funding.
- Advocate for school to have art specialist in grades k-12.
- Allow career artists, those working as an artist for over 15 years, to receive grants and loans without a lot of hassle in applying and with a guarantee of acceptance.
- Allow teachers who are using the grant program to repeat art lessons.
- Arts education in the public school system.
- be a stronger advocate, ask for nominees to the board that will do this
- Be more productive; give more information to instructors and the public.
- better funding
- Can only think of the recognition of art educator impact in the schools as mentioned in question 20.
- Communication and encouraging the artist.
- Consider making organizations eligible for more than one grant per year, especially if funding is available and projects are diverse.
- Continue statewide arts education promotion
- continue to be creative and thought provoking
- Coordinate statewide opportunities to engage in conversation/networking with similar arts organizations.
- Design new website; improve external communications.

- Disparity in funding...for example an opera company doing two performances annually may receive greater institutional support funding than an arts council that has programming year round.
- doing a good job now
- don't know
- Expand art opportunities for elementary students.
- Financial support for artists who have run the risk of renting space and struggle to stay in business. If we had support we could take our careers to the next level instead of just maintaining.
- Focus more on bringing in permanent programs in schools. Building a literate culture at the lower levels will help years down the road
- Fund projects at the 50% match or don't fund them at all.
- give program funding to organizations that receive operating dollars
- Grant opportunities. Public showcases for arts. More educational opportunities in the schools.
- have workshops more available in smaller communities
- Help improve the image of North Dakota by recognizing and promoting its finest, highest-level arts organizations. Folk art gets too much attention.
- Helping more with local arts organizations (though I think NDCA already does a good job of this).
- I appreciate the cultural diversity within the state but I would like to see more focus on all of us in "the silent majority".
- I believe the advocacy element of NDCA could be strengthened by having community residents interested in the arts speak with policy makers to support funding and at public meetings that are being held to consider funding.
- I can't think of any improvements off hand
- I can't think of anything right now.
- I feel that you do an awesome job and are always very supportive. Maybe a visit to our event or organization to see what you can do to be of further assistance to us.
- I have no suggestions at this time.
- I have none
- I have not been involved long enough to say something
- I like the idea of the council advocating for all arts organizations under one umbrella.
- I like the NDCA just as it is. I am an artist, art-teacher, and a musician and sometimes-music teacher, K-12. I am satisfied with the service I am getting.
- I think that the Arts are doing a good job in ND
- I think the website could be improved. There are so many different things to click on the side bar on the left and above that it's hard to know where to find things.
I think there could be more done to promote awareness of the different grants available as well.
- I think the western part of the state gets more funding according to the newsletter that publishes the schools and organizations that receive funds.
- I think they are doing a fine job
- I would like to see a change in board leadership because I think it's essential for new minds to bring new energy and ideas to the board and the organization. The director and staff do an excellent job.
- I would like to see more awareness of the organization in the public sector.
- I would like to see more effective advocacy to improve the level of state support through the legislative process.
- I would love to see a statewide Arts Advocacy group. We need more operating support from the State of North Dakota. Charitable gaming does provide revenue but we can't continue to have big revenue fluctuations when the economy takes a dive. We need stable, general operating support...especially for

some of the bigger organizations. There are many, many project grants available out there...but we need a way to keep our lights on and doors open too.

- I'd have to be more familiar to speculate, to be honest.
- If you look at the schedule of events on the web site as of 2/16/10, you will see why I have expressed a concern about a lack of information about Native Americans. North Dakota is blessed with tribes who have wonderful artists. An effort should be made to expose those artists to the public.
- I'm embarrassed I didn't know about the website. But maybe that's your fault that it hasn't been promoted enough?
- Improve interest of a larger proportion of general public. What brings a farmer into an event about 'art'? What brings a wind power blade production worker into an event after working a 10 hr. shift?
- Improved visibility within the state & non-arts organizations. Needs greater respect in the other offices of state govt' (commerce, tourism, Gov's office, & legislature, etc.)
- Increased visibility.
- influx of different walks of life on boards, associations, etc. rather than artist majority
- Instead of large grants to a few artists as many organizations do...find ways to help everyone. Automatic gifts to classroom teachers in the arts for examples...spare schools from some of the endless fundraising whenever a trip is involved.

Sponsor some art trips for students and teachers which are NOT sponsored by individual schools but would allow students from small, rural areas to access art travel. Maybe some great field trips for just the art educators!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- It was fine to me when we used it on a regular basis.
- It would be nice if NDCA would provide some assistance for the costs of showing work.
- I've noticed ads for Culture Pulse in our local newspaper, but I've never seen a television spot promoting the website. In this age of electronic media, I think you could get the word out to more people by using radio & television.
- just keep swinging hard
- Just the "look" of the web site. It seems a bit formal and is a place to store information.
- Keep doing what you are doing as advocates for our organizations.
- Keep plugging away. More money...
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep working to support the arts in K-12.
- Keeping working on the folk arts and building on the small communities that need help.
- larger grants
lobbying the legislature
- less turnover in employees
- Like so many others, I would like to see the North Dakota Council on the Arts get more funding.
- Link to more art organizations.
- make the grant easier for schools to fill out
- Make the website a tool for artists and art patrons in order to promote, educate and communicate.
- Making it known. TV, print ads, something... I didn't even know about the website until this survey.
- Maybe more artist in residence positions.
- More "real-world" advocacy in the rural parts of the state. Hi-end performers, composers, etc., are fine...but they don't "reach" the less "artistic" audience...which is the majority of the public.
- more funding for Master/Apprentice program
- More in school involvement... Make artistic cultural presentations that would all grade levels, to ease cultural sensitivity. Native American and European sensitivity.

- More individual artist fellowship grants. Quality of visual artists on rosters is marginal - try to recruit other artists. Granted not all visual artists can teach perhaps some training can be offered to prepare more artists to enter AIR program.
- More individual artists' grants.
- more interest in the artist that is not a non profit
- More K-12 Art Education.
- More media coverage to increase awareness of activities and benefits to artists. Creating more links between public and artists.
- MORE Native American involvement.
- More of the same. Keep up the good work.
- More outreach and regular updates. The Springboard for the Arts group out of the Twin Cities does a fabulous job of outreach.
- More professional workshops for instructors.
- more publicity
- More support for individual working artists and more support for projects/public art that are highly visible.
- More visits from the board to show greater interest and value in Artists and their efforts.
- N/A
- N/A
- NA
- na
- NDCA is addressing the needs of our state quite well. We have great access to staff and they are responsive to our needs.
- networking with new talent
- No suggestion
- No suggestions
- no suggestions
- No suggestions
- no suggestions
- No suggestions.
- No suggestions.
- No suggestions; the Council is well managed and effective.
- none
- Not a single thing.
- Not sure
- not sure
- Not sure
- Not sure -- sorry
- Not sure at this time.
- not sure, new to this
- Not sure. I have been happy with all encounters I have had.
- nothing
- Nothing
- nothing
- Nothing at this time.

- nothing I can think of
- Nothing much different than is already taking place
- Offer a grant program.
- Our greatest problem is money (lack of it). The next problem is that with support we can provide programming to a very small population base. We offer these programs to all the towns around Crosby (NW ND).
- Our Native American Culture. Their art the traditions, the culture... Especially our Chippewa and Metis population...
- Perhaps attend once a year one of each member's events.
- Perhaps easier, less time consuming grant applications for schools wanting to be involved in the AIR program.
- Perhaps more opportunities to meet and discuss ways to improve collaboration and sharing of ideas across the state
- Please keep increasing the efforts to improve arts education.
- Probably just being more open to new art. I have run into a lot of roadblocks in my life due to the subject of my art. My work includes gay imagery and I've been told time and time again that is the reason I am passed over. So, maybe a little open mindedness would help.
- Promote CulturePulse.org so it becomes a reflexive location for ND Arts activities.
- Provide easy to find information on how to contact individual artists. Perhaps publish a pamphlet in which artists could buy space, similar, but less expensive, than that produced by the Bismarck Tribune (whose rates are ridiculously high). Such a pamphlet, stocked at tourist info centers and rest areas, could have a profound impact on awareness of ND arts and artists.
- Provide grant seminars and workshops.
- Provide more funding for art in education with less paper work.
- Provide more funding for residencies and have workshops for classroom teachers on how to teach out in their classrooms.
- Raise the amounts of \$\$ for certain grants, i.e. the teacher incentive, and prof devel. and Touring arts grant from 600 to 1500
- Reach farther to the youth. They are the future.
- Realize that opportunities exist throughout all of North Dakota, not just the central and eastern portions.
- Really provide leadership through stronger advocacy programs and general workshops in creativity and imagination (rather than genre workshops or professional development workshops). I teach such workshops and I invite you to call me about what I mean by this 212-213-5310.
- Regional meetings in smaller towns.
- See above - I have no idea.
- See previous entries. I know your basic task is to support organizations. Where do individuals, especially those new to the state, look for connections? For advanced training/educations as artists?
- somehow bring down the % galleries take from sales, (I know, they have to) but make people aware that the prices charged are higher than what people think they should pay because 1/3 or more goes to the gallery! Sometimes we share our work for nothing except for the pure joy of being an artist
- Stress the importance of art and artists to the general overall wellbeing and health of this state. Art is an important part of everyone's life even if they don't at this time realize it. Get the word out!
- Support individual artists more and organizations/institutions less.
- technology grants
- That more ethnic people be recognized in their field, too.

- The arts are an essential part of learning for all ages. I would like to see more schools using the arts in teaching of basic core subjects to unleash learning and creativity.
- The conferences are excellent but not as well attended as they should be. I have wondered if they don't appeal to the arts organizations in the larger communities. It is a challenge in this state to balance the things that would draw arts interests from larger communities with those of the smaller towns. But I don't think there is as good a cross section attending the conferences as I would like to see at a state-wide arts event. I have enjoyed everyone I have attended.
- The Funding For Teaching Artists.
- The Minot Area Council is in direct competition with area arts organizations
- The NDCA is not widely recognized... facebook was a good step.
- The website could use a more artistic, aesthetically pleasing look. It is an ND art based site, yet it doesn't feel like an art site. It feels more like an information forum. I understand that the site has to fit a huge amount of information, but I think it can be done in a more artistic, interesting, attractive way which would also help people remember and promote the site.

More promotion of the smaller local organizations that are perhaps being overlooked. For example, 62 Doors Gallery and Studios in Minot ND has been around for a number of years but they seem to be off the radar despite being one of only a couple frequently active arts organizations in Minot.

- There are so many demands for improving the arts and arts advocacy in this state, but NDCA is doing a great job with few resources.
- There seems to be a funding inequity with more monies going to those organizations that are quite solvent yet those that are struggling come out at the short end of things. Funding should be to help those who most need it.
- This survey proves that you are attempting to find this answer.
- To improve their application in the funding area. I have a hard time with their reports on what we have to report. We don't always understand what they mean in some of the categories. It seems to be geared toward art galleries which we understand but makes it very difficult for those who have museums or other functions besides the arts. Which makes it very confusing for those of us organizations that don't work strictly with the arts?
- Try to get additional funding for programs and Artists
- Unable to comment at this time.
- Unknown
- Unknown
- unsure
- Ways of funding
- We have no complaints; however, we would hope your support will continue.
- We need to find ways of educating our administrators and school boards through more extensive research and distribution of 'best practices' in the arts and the impact an arts education has on the capacity of children to succeed.
- We need to support, encourage and become mentors of our young artists or our emerging artist. We need to discourage the idea that because somebody is a famous artist or well known in our communities, she or he is too good to be next to a young or not so well known artist. You, as a council on the arts can help us keep these young people in our state!!!
- Website could use a face lift. Not the worse website I've seen but could use some improvement.
- work for more funding
- work on continued awareness of NDCA and its fine efforts
technology--use of webcasts, etc

- Work toward a more even distribution of teacher incentive grants throughout the state, educating classroom teachers and school administrators...so many of them don't get it.
- YOU ARE ON THE RIGHT ROAD, MAYBE MORE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE. THIS COULD BE AVAILABLE FOR RURAL AREAS THAT HAVE A LIMITED ART CLASSES.
- You do a great job, but keep advocating for the arts, especially in all rural and urban centers for k-12 education.

Question 39: Do you have any other suggestions for the North Dakota Council on the Arts as we update our strategic plan?

Summary of repeated comments The number in parenthesis indicates the frequency each was mentioned.

- ❖ No suggestions (comments from 44)
 - ❖ Keep up the good work, thank you (13)
 - ❖ Get more funding (4)
 - ❖ Strengthen support to individual artists (4)
 - ❖ Enhance advocacy (3)
 - ❖ Focus on supporting local groups (2)
 - ❖ Balance support for the arts statewide (2)
 - ❖ Organize artists' health insurance (2)
 - ❖ Improve the NDCA website (2)
- Are there sites to teach us to build our web sites for the counsel? Should poster/pamphlets be posted in public community areas and schools? Ever thought about TV advertisements for us?
 - ...no...
 - Add information to the website and make things easier to find. I do most of my networking and looking for shows and opportunities online and I can never find or use anything on the website. It needs updated badly.
 - Artists in general need help in marketing their art. Understanding the wholesale/retail business concept.
 - Arts should be happening all over the state, not just in the metro areas of Minot, Bismarck, Grand Forks and Fargo. You may want to consider a site on the web page for cultural/artistic events that are happening on the reservations or in other rural areas.
 - As stated above.
 - Be careful with taxpayers' resources.
 - Be radical.
 - Can you feature a different artist right on your home page every month?
 - Come up with a group health insurance plan to offer to artists that would be comparable to a plan that a large corporation would offer their employees.
 - Communicate with grant applicant for input.
 - Contact me with information
 - Continue on the path you have been. It has been working.
 - continue outreach to 'underserved' areas
 - continued (and if possible, increased) creative and financial support for artists; help with marketing for individual artists; potential health insurance options for full-time artists
 - Continued efforts to coordinate accurate, up to date information on arts events throughout the state on the web and through the newsletter; continued advocacy for arts education in the schools.
 - Continued support of community based, volunteer performing groups.

- Decide to advance all the arts in the education curriculum.
- Develop a strategy to garner more general operating support for arts organizations in ND. State legislators need to hear and be reminded about the importance of the arts during every legislative session. Thank you for being our voice...now let's get louder. :)
- Develop the Foundation to support the work.
- Each of us needs to be enthusiastic and support the arts in ND.
- establish a goal of funding from the state that is meeting the need and which is pegged to real measures
- every child, every adult needs art in their lives
- Expand ND artists' opportunities by somehow creating an alliance with MN Artists Org.
- Find a way to collaborate with ND councils in various parts of the state to work together to bring out-of-state artists to ND and share the mileage.
- Find a way to help support the small schools in ND that don't have any access to arts programs.
- Flood the state with quality art. Make it a destination to come see.
- Focus on funding of local groups. It needs to be bottom up and local groups need the support to be successful
- Focus on lobbying for a strong art education program
- Gas money for school tours to tour the Plains Art Museum.
- Get everyone involved...be inclusive...not just big schools and art agencies.
- Go granular and support the individual artist. That's where art truly lives.
- Greater direct contact with rural communities.
- Grow!
- Have contact information for people interested in joining various local arts organizations.
- Have workshops provided by certified artists to help teach the classroom teachers the history, aesthetics, art standards, and multicultural lessons. This will enable the students to learn about others and to begin to live with them and understand them in a nonviolent manner. Maybe then, we will have a more understanding community of people than we have now.
- I am truly amazed at the size and breadth of the current arts community in ND. At one time I saw a listing of ND Artists, Writers, etc. If that listing was available through a website link, ND's could have access to identify neighbors, friends, etc. I've found people often don't know of their neighbor's - friends' talents, but when they learn, support them.
- I highly suggest that there be a little Santa Fe Art plan in place for Native Americans to reach more of the rural communities like a traveling showcase and a chance to meet the artists.
- I like your strategic plan, and like all plans it is systematically evaluated and updated.
- I realize we may not be as innovative as larger groups and towns. But that we exist and continue to exist demonstrates a real commitment to the arts.
- I really enjoyed the workshop for instructors that had the artist in residence perform for us. I would like to go to that again
- I think you are doing great. We appreciate that you do not favor the larger cities over the smaller communities in our state, and hope that you will continue your support in all ways.
- I wish the public schools throughout the state had visual arts programming k-12.
- I wish you well. You do important work in the state.
- I would love to see the NDCA work to increase understanding of how arts education and participation in the arts improves critical and abstract thinking. I would love to see awareness projects that challenge people to turn off the TV, engage their brains and try something unfamiliar.
- If there were any way possible to include ArtistsND as part of your plan, it would be great. I am really trying to get this effort launched, because I see its value as an export-generating activity and also as an expansion of

cultural tourism. We are getting the name on books, art and crafts to sell in stores and online along with the Pride of Dakota effort.

- Just persevere... this is a tough time for the arts.
- Keep Jan Webb here! She's a great asset!
- Keep striving for excellence.
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep up the good work. We appreciate NDCA!
- Keep up the good work. I am one person. Alone I do my thing and generally don't get out to see much else. Quiet and alone I work best. Your emailings help apprise me of goings on and opportunities. Some I can take advantage of. Some I pass on to others. Keep up the good work.
- Keep up your amazing work!
- Lately I have been doing an internet radio program. I wonder if the artists in North Dakota would benefit from a podcast sort of presentation link on your web site. Granted it is just regarding audio art but that's my field of choice. :-)
- Make a petition to ban stuffed animal heads from being allowed in residences. The weird hicks in this state might be forced to buy art to decorate their homes instead of using corpses of the things they killed...
- Make certain that some board members of the NDCA serve on the proposed new advocacy group so lines of communication between the two groups are strong and that the two groups are heading in the same direction.
- Maybe I just not navigating the website properly, but I couldn't really find any information on what is being done and what services are provided in the way of Arts education.
- More artists that coming from other areas of the country with skills to teach, organize, with skills to obtain funding and skills to work with government official. Do this by having ND towns offer assistance in moving and tax breaks.
- more cohesion between arts organizations
- More effort to be highly visible in the heart of metro areas.
- More grants!
- More push with local artists to get recognition in their local districts. Also a financial incentive to license artists to teach art. Work with DPI to get licensure for part time art teachers. Maybe offer a crash course in education for those interested in working with schools.
- More support for individual artists
- More support for new and struggling artists...
- N/A
- N/A
- NA
- na
- ND has a lack of art support at its local base, specifically on the West side of the State, the Minot region and beyond. I feel before a large state wide strategy can be successful strong local following needs to be established. Once the roots are infused with art support art awareness throughout ND will grow. At the moment it feels like perhaps too much is being done on the large scale where art is perhaps less accessible and more intimidating to the people. It's hard to support things on a state wide level without and legs to hold it up, and I think the smaller more local organizations could be the legs if they receive more help in spreading art awareness. Rather than spread things our over the state which might cause them to become watered down, perhaps strong promotion of a few smaller local events/organizations would provide more motivation to the communities to get involved with ND art.
- NDCA is doing job. Keep it up!
- no

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- No
- No -- good luck!
- No, I can't think of anything
- No.
- No.
- No.
- No.
- No.
- none
- None
- None at this time.
- none presently
Thank you
- nope--the more involved the more people are the more will happen
- Not any today
- not at this time
- Not at this time.
- NOT AT THIS TIME.
- Not at this time.
- Not right now.
- not sure
- Nothing at this time.
- notify the general public periodically of the ongoing projects in the state

- Perhaps we should state our prices as the price for the artist work and a second price that says 1/3 or more for the gallery for showing and doing the paper work on the art, so they know what they are paying for!
- Periodic regional gatherings of Arts community to broaden ties, connectivity, and referral.
- Please remember the indigenous arts and the value that they lend to North Dakota.
- Please see question 24's answer.
- same as above
- Student's today use technology as a learning mode, how do art and technology blend as a learning process?
- Take a look at MN State Arts Board models for engaging citizens (Arts Advocacy Day at the Capitol)
- The advocacy piece is extremely important. Please share the plan - I know you will.
- The teachers need more and better supplies. Many purchase these out of pocket.
- There should more funding programs available for art in summer schools too for teachers to explore.
- To all that are involved. Your hard work is much appreciated. -Visual Artist, Fargo
- Unable to comment at this time
- Visit w/ tribal council & tribal colleges, to bring about AWARENESS & MUCH NEEDED education, w/ regard to RACE relations, & BUILDING BRIDGES!
- We have been so appreciative of the grants we have used for artist in residence or ACCESS grants. Our students have really benefited.
- We need to be thinking about how we can get our youth and young adults interested in seeing art as the necessary part of life it is. They need to see and understand that art is not an 'option', but it is a tool, a resource, and a problem solving solution.
- While brick and mortar and funds for equipment are the most difficult to attain, and yet arts organizations need building space and equipment specific to each discipline, would really like help acquiring funds for these expenses and someone as a primary resource person
- Work closely with professional artists to provide a series of workshops around the state. Could be financially self-sustaining and perhaps even profitable.
- You are doing a great job now - keep it up!