

Arts Reset Planning: Commission Member Survey Results, February 2021

What does the community need now from the Arts Council?	How can you support those needs as the Arts Council given the current conditions of the City and the pandemic?	What are the three most important objectives the Arts Council needs to accomplish during this year? What should the focus be for 2021?	As you look beyond 2021, how should the Arts Council measure its success?
Leadership, Vision and Continuity	<p>I'd like to continue connecting people and projects in our city and region during the pandemic. For example, I would love to support the high school diversity mural. I'd like to see it at the basketball courts on the Aubry Davis Parkway since it will have the most impact (bikers, visiting ball players) and I think the Community Fund would help sponsor and the Chamber. I personally am willing to donate for a lift to create a tall mural like a banner being unfurled from the tennis court level to the ground.</p> <p>I can also work on long term planning for the use of our 1% for Art. And I'd like to see the art council explore at least one art element in each new major city project like the docks at Luther Burbank to optimize costs around construction and infrastructure and getting the best project for a particular location. All new city projects should be passed through the Arts Commission for their design suggestions just as we do with commercial projects through the Design Commission. Not that every project will have an arts project but perhaps the Arts Council can offer suggestions that with little or no cost will make art more accessible in these locations in the future, for example outdoor electrical plug ins.</p>	<p>For 2021 support the high school mural and one other outdoor visual installation. Although we could launch a literary/poetry community engagement project commemorating and acknowledging Covid-19 positive impacts on our lives. Like responding quirky questions like "after Covid-19 I'll never go back to.... "the best thing about the pandemic was....." we could figure out how to engage the community and share the writings. I think we can continue to invite the community to enjoy the art we have -like press releases/stories about some art we already have.</p>	<p>We should probably go back to our programing from the past by starting with events that the community has expressed a lot of support for like summer outdoor concerts. We should evaluate each program as to how much work goes into supporting it , what the cost is and how many people are reached by the program.</p> <p>Looking beyond 2021 the arts commission should learn more about the desires of the community probably by surveying. So then the arts council can deliver what the community wants-that would be the measure. It would take quite a bit of time to develop a good survey that would help us with long term arts programing.</p>
Engagement and opportunity to break away from indoors and enable arts interaction socially distanced.	<p>Now that we are in Phase 2, the easiest way is to offer an Open Studio in the Community Center that allows patrons to sign-up for an hr. or two every week. Open Studio is meant to offer safe socially distanced dedicated time and space for winding down through art. Patrons can bring projects from home to work on in a relaxed, stress-free atmosphere. Those needing inspiration can be provided the project assignments, instructions, and materials list prior to their Open Studio appointment. Later, we can also start minimal art classes as needed while adhering to social distancing and capacity requirements as required.</p> <p>I am happy to take a lead on this initiative should this be selected by the Arts Council.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver an arts/culture outlet or experience for the public that is catered towards both mental health and belongingness of community and artists 2. Increased partnership with Council, local businesses, partners, and artists as an ongoing mechanism to cater to all members of the community and continuously improve on them 3. Adopt a sustainable funding policy that does not depend solely on City's budget 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased community engagement from zero in 2020 to at least 50% of pre-covid times 2. Increased and holistic partnership across the board that is equitable and inclusive 3. Independent funding, budgeting, and resourcing capability for the Arts Council to be able to deliver its mission
The artists need encouragement/publicity/funding. The public needs respite from stress through connection to art. We need to protect our art collection and promote its continuing development.	<p>We could share info about opportunities for artists. We could seek funding from the various COVID relief arts opportunities. We could convene to brainstorm and create events that are COVID friendly, low cost, low city staff effort and/or grant supported. I note that none of these questions addresses budgeting for the arts/arts council.</p>	<p>Protect assets. Engage community in the arts. Support MI artists. Focus- create one community event to support/encourage arts engagement, perhaps with monetary options to create a fund for a project to be created by a local artist.</p>	<p>At this time the City government does not seem to value the arts as a priority. This minimizes the Council's ability to engage/entertain/support the community of artists and art lovers, as well as to build and maintain an arts collection. It would be great to see more buy-in by the city government, which would help to support the needs of our community.</p>
Presence, to show that we are still here to reincorporate arts back into the community.	<p>Start small, bring back a single event. Clean up/revamp bylaws that allow for more influence with the city and other commissions.</p>	<p>Protecting and maintain the public art collection. Bringing attention to the public art collection with interactive activities. Programming an arts experience, to provide a diversion and opportunity to reconnect as a community, and with collaborating with MIVAL and other organizations..</p>	<p>How many events/services we were able to bring back to the community.</p>
As much arts focused distraction, diversion, connection, and inclusion we can generate safely.	<p>Outdoor programming and activities designed for small groups or individuals. Arts Council could consider online programming, but that is less desirable with all the activities already forced online. Any art maps or guides should be inclusive for people with physical challenges and seniors.</p>	<p>Protecting and maintain the public art collection. Bringing attention to the public art collection with interactive activities. Programming an arts experience, to provide a diversion and opportunity to reconnect as a community, and with collaborating with MIVAL and other organizations..</p>	<p>The lowest bar is if we are still operating as a council and have provided at least one arts focused project for the community. Beyond that this feels like a question that should be iterative and refined as we move forward.</p>