



Art Teacher Listening Session

July 27, 2022

Report

Executive Summary

AMOA Committee requested an Art Teacher Listening Session. The purpose of the Listening Session was to gather critical thoughts and ideas to inform future programing and school partnership for AMOA.

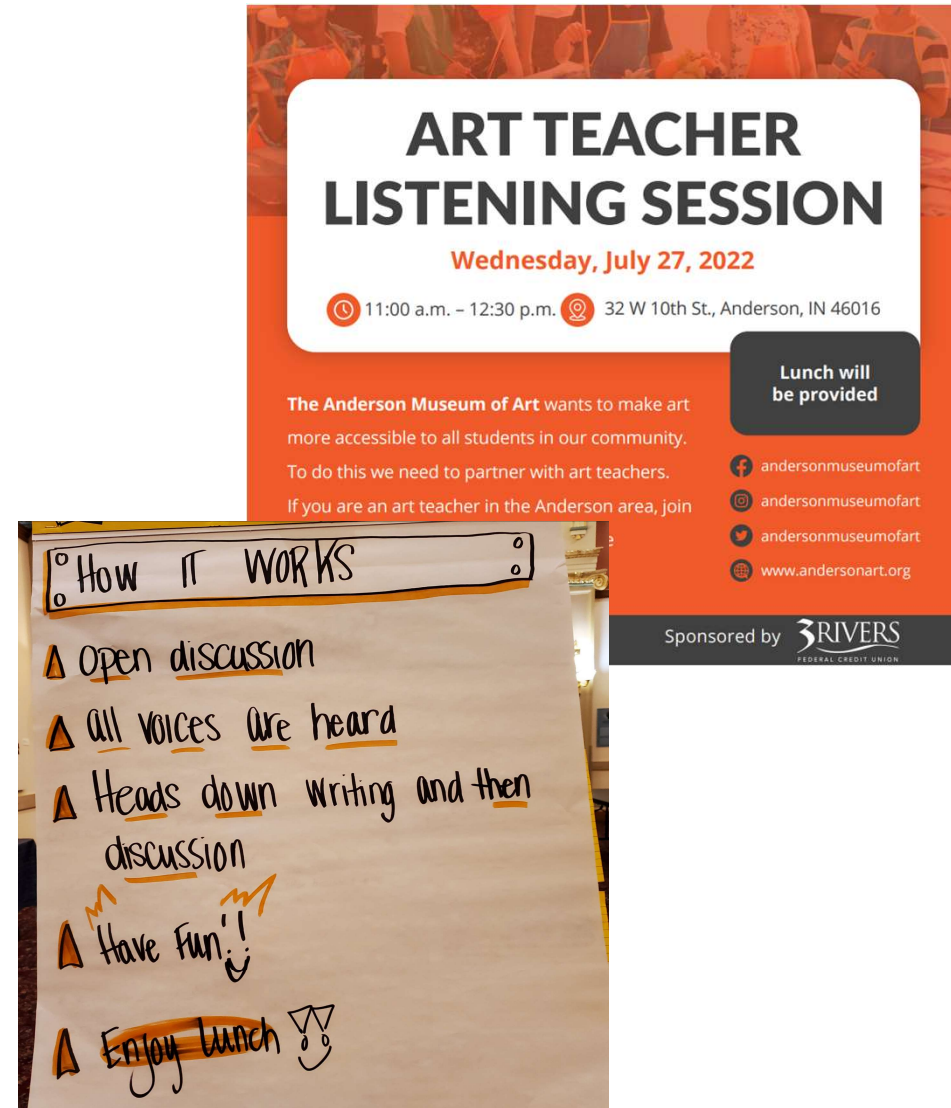
The Listening Session was held on July 27, 2022.

Overview of Participants:

- 1 Male
- 4 Females
- Ages ranged from late 20s through early 50s. (estimated)
- Teacher experience ranged from several years to over 20 years.

Listening Sessions is a means of collecting qualitative data. Currently, we do not have quantitative data.

The group provided a variety of practical and creative ideas that fit into AMOA's Strategic Plan.



ART TEACHER LISTENING SESSION
Wednesday, July 27, 2022
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 32 W 10th St., Anderson, IN 46016

Lunch will be provided

The Anderson Museum of Art wants to make art more accessible to all students in our community. To do this we need to partner with art teachers. If you are an art teacher in the Anderson area, join

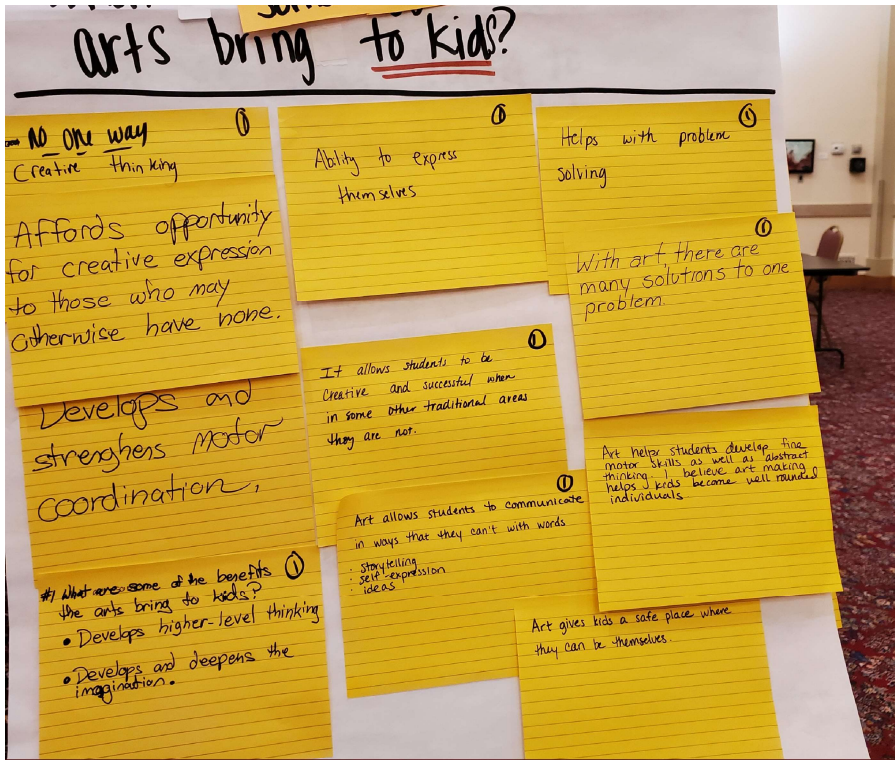
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How IT WORKS

- ▲ Open discussion
- ▲ All voices are heard
- ▲ Heads down writing and then discussion
- ▲ Have Fun! 😊
- ▲ Enjoy Lunch 🍴

Question 1: What are some of the benefits the arts bring to kids?



Enables creative thinking and encourages “no one way” of thinking

Affords opportunity for creative expression to those who may otherwise have none.

Ability to apply themselves.

Helps with solving problems.

With art, there are many solutions to one problem.

Develops and strengthens motor coordination.

It allows students to be creative and successful when in some other traditional areas, they are not.

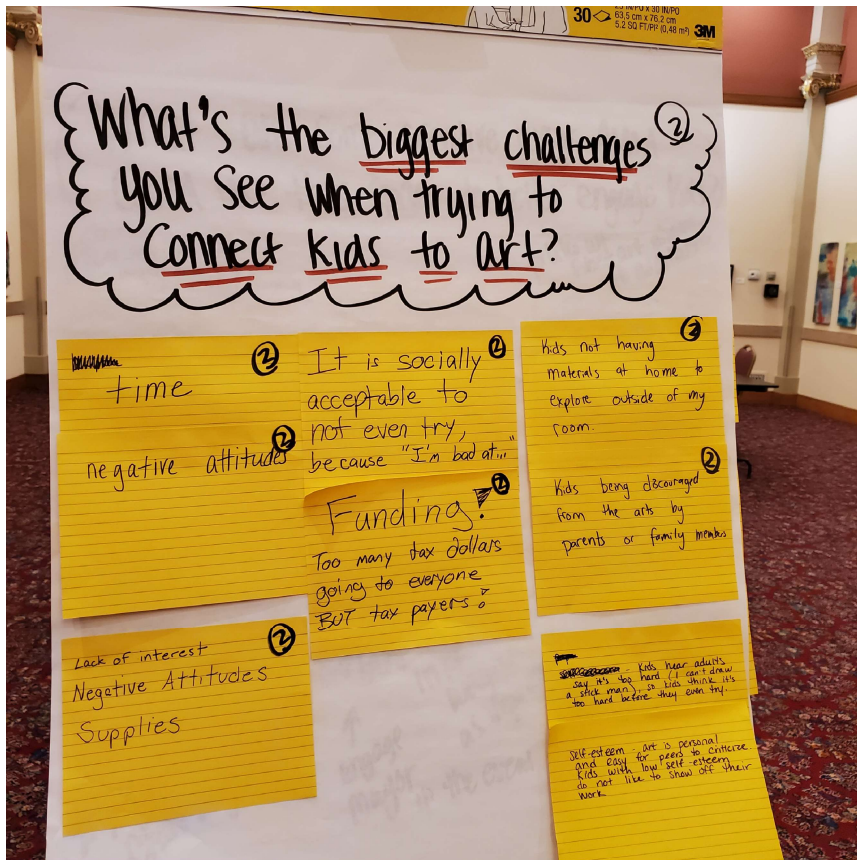
Art helps students develop fine motor skills as well as abstract thinking. I believe art making helps kids become well rounded individuals.

Art gives kids a safe place where they can be themselves.

Art allows students to communicate in ways that they can't with words.
(storytelling, self-expression, and ideas)

Develops higher-level thinking and develops/deepens the imagination.

Question 2: What is the biggest challenge you see when trying to connect kids to art?



Time

Negative attitudes

It is socially acceptable to not even try because I'm bad at....

Funding. Too many tax dollars go to everyone but the taxpayers.

Lack of interest.

Negative attitudes.

Lack of supplies.

Kids not having materials at home to explore outside of our classrooms.

Kids being discouraged from the arts by parents or family members.

Kids hear adults say it's too hard (I can't draw a stickman) so kids think it's too hard before they even try.

Self-esteem – art is personal and easy for peers to criticize. Kids with low self-esteem do not like to show off their work.

Question 3: What are some creative ways AMOA could use this space to better engage kids?

Expand hours to enable after school programming.

Connect art to things kids are already interested in. (i.e. ROBLOX)

Have a tactile art show.

Host a Night At The Museum.

Tie art to video games (see Children's Museum for ideas)

Develop specials areas where kids can touch & feel the art.

Create a selfie-art booth or backdrop.

Interactive spaces to help kids explore a current art exhibit. For example, little crafts related to the medium on display. Fiber arts, have fiber arts available to play with.

Art Shows of Children's Art.

Consider something like FAME in Fort Wayne.

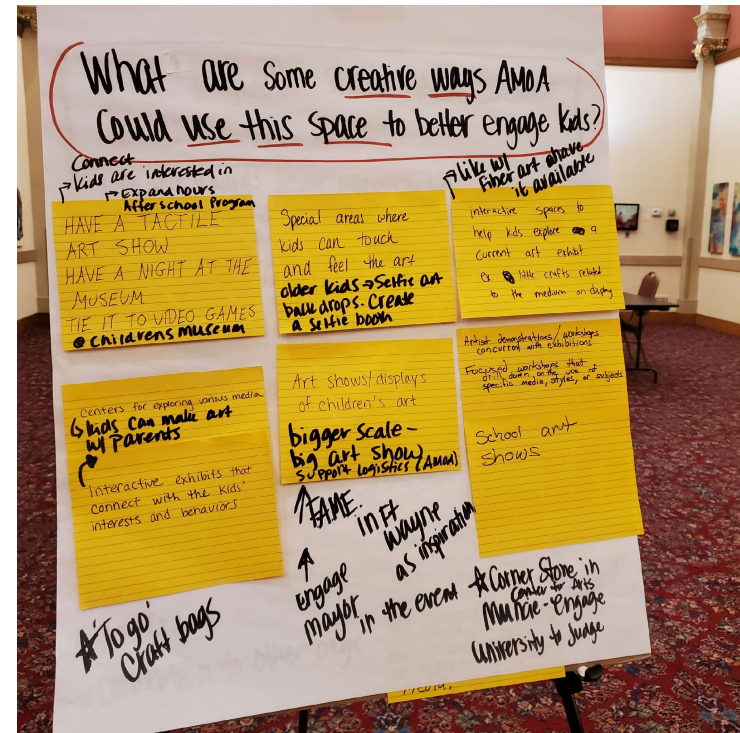
Artist demonstrations/ workshops concurrent with exhibitions.

Focused workshops that drill down on the use of specific media, styles, or subjects.

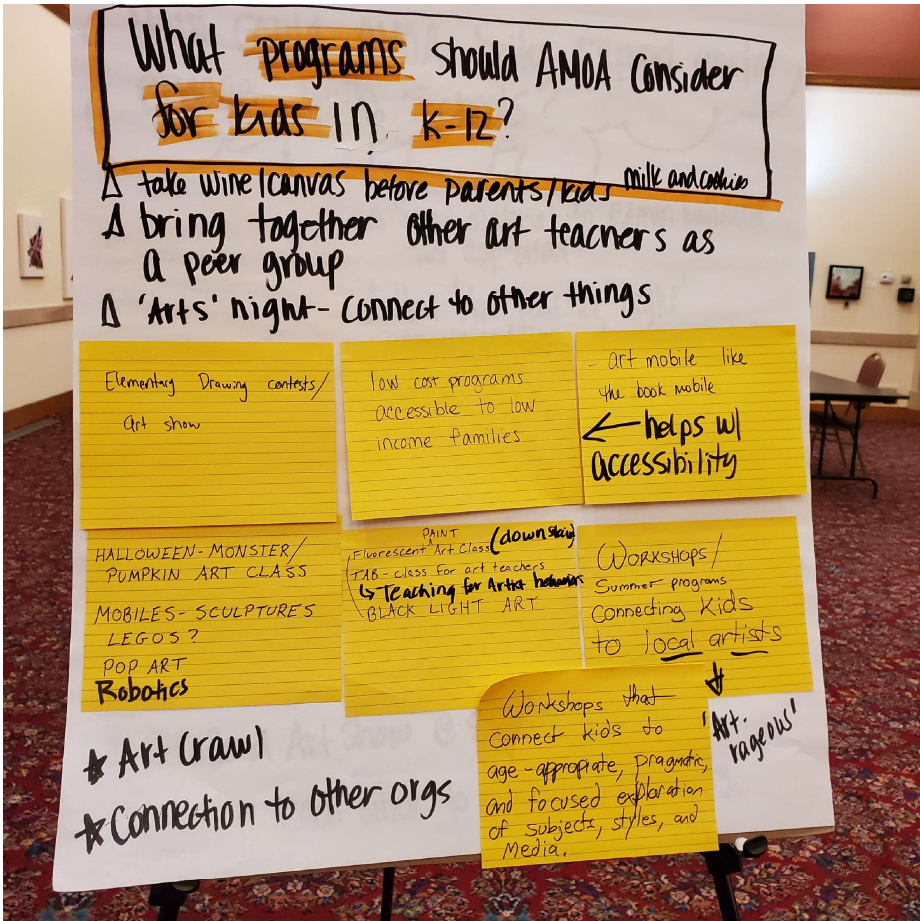
Centers for exploring various media.

Space for kids to make art with their parents.

Offer "On The Go" craft / art bags.



Question 4: What programs should AMOA consider for kids K-12?



Create a Wine/Canvas but for kids and parents.

Bring together other art teachers as a peer group.

Arts Night – connect to other things happening in downtown or other organizations.

Elementary drawing contest.

Low-cost programs accessible to low-income families.

Art mobile, like the book mobile.

Halloween Contest
Monster/ Pumpkin art class.

Mobiles, sculptures, Legos, pop art, or robotics.

Art Crawl.

Fluorescent paint art class in the downstairs space.

TAB (Teaching Artists Behaviors) class for art teachers.

Black light art.

Workshops/ summer programs connecting kids to local artists. (artageous)

Workshops that connect kids to age-appropriate, pragmatic, and focused exploration of subjects, styles, and media.

Question 5: How could AMOA better support and/or engage with area schools?

Cookies and Canvas but for Art Teachers

Send flyers and invitations to Admin building for approval and distribution to students.

Host Art Teacher Night to create and connect over art.

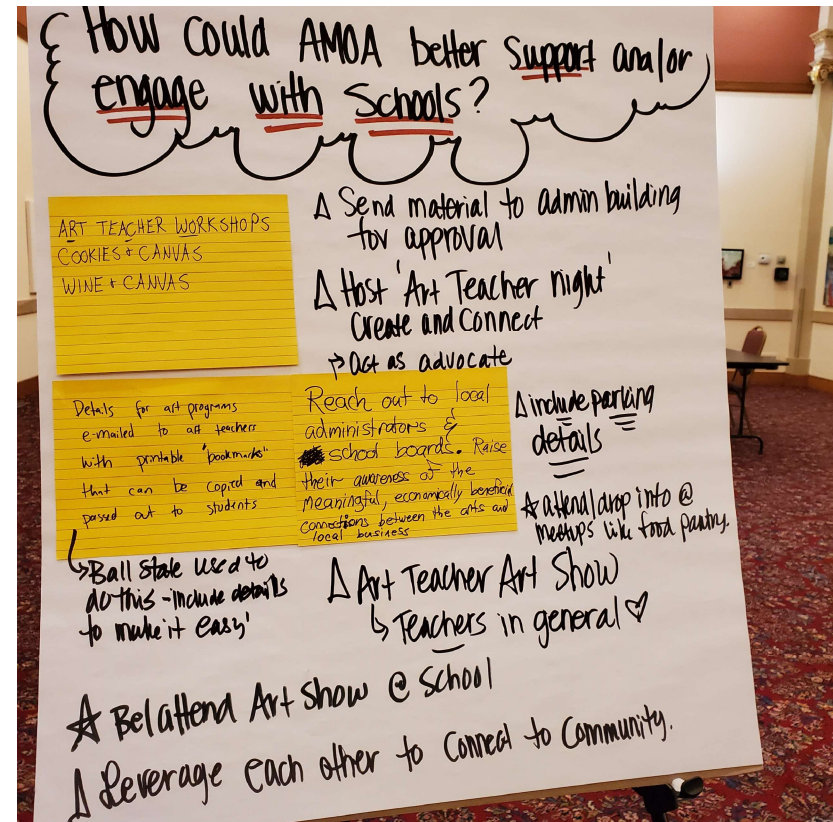
Act as an advocate to the school system to continue to support art programs. Reach out to admin and school board to raise their awareness of importance of the arts.

Art Teacher Art Show

Send details about art programs via email to the art teachers with printable information. Make it easy for parents to register, print, or engage with the process.

AMOA staff attend the schools' arts.

Leverage each other to connect to community.



Summary



The focus group provided many tactical ideas that would fit into AMOA's ACCESS strategy and goals of:

- Increasing youth access and appreciation of the arts
- Being a partner in access and exposure for local artists.

Here are some of the ideas that appeared to have the most support from group:

- Create an Artist Teacher Roundtable that meets quarterly or semi-annually to continue to foster a relationship with local schools and teachers.
- Collaborate with the schools to host a local kids art show.
- Increase the tactile experiences for children, bringing interactive experiences down to eye level for children.
- Develop a kids programming communication plan that includes local school administrators as distributors.