



**Division Avenue Arts Collective**

**2021 Programming Poll Results**

**90** people took our programming poll

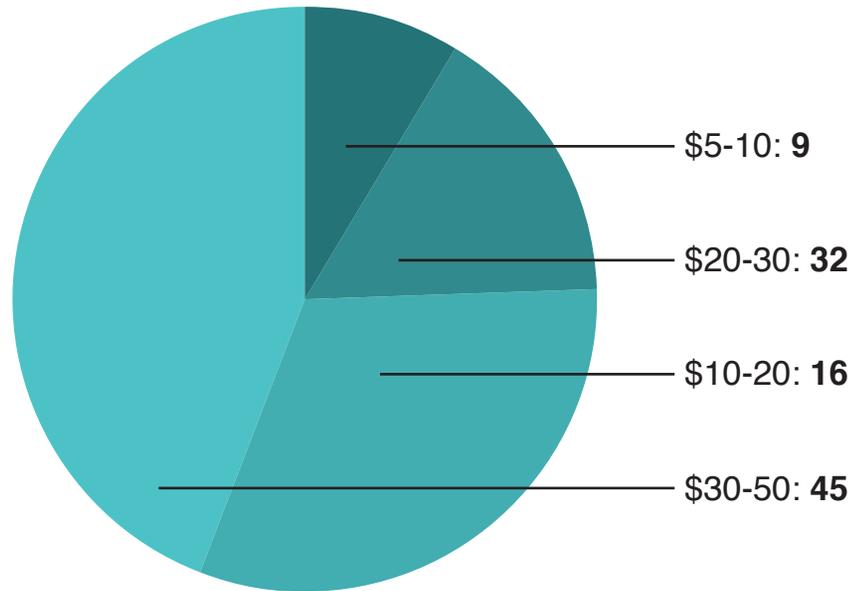
- Ages range from **11-67 years old**
- Our average age was **31** years old

Our community considered themselves...

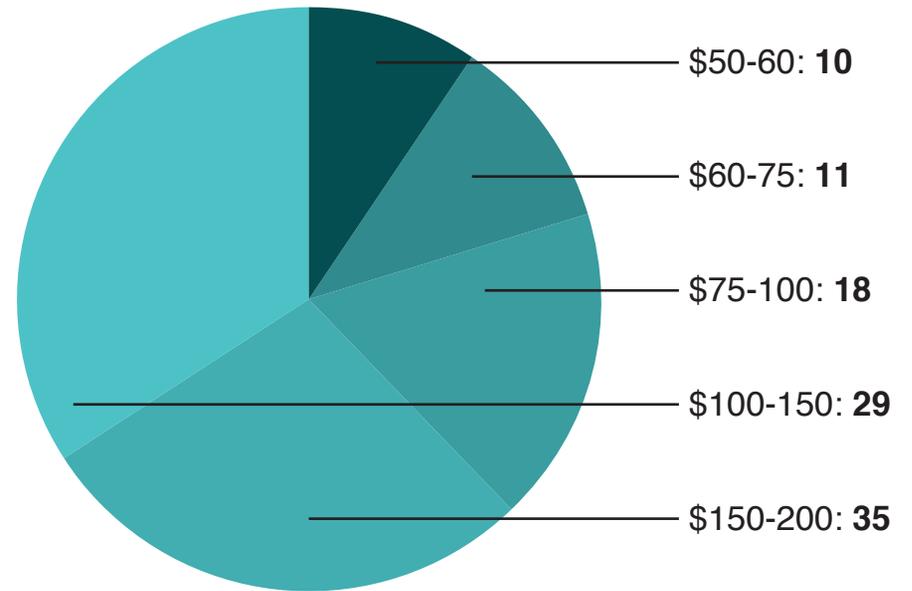
- A local artist: **43**
- Creston Neighbor: **50** (3 work in Creston)
- Volunteer or supporter: **23**

**66%** have attended **DAAC** events,  
**95%** of those attendees mentioned seeing  
**live music** at the **DAAC**

## How much would you be willing to pay to rent a space for **2 hours**?



## For an **entire day**?



### General reservation comments

- “I am wondering about the non-profit “Dog Story Theatre” and if there would be a way for your two groups to work together on any theatrical performances? They lost their space during the pandemic, but I know they are still wanting to do things.”
- “Your prices are very reasonable! I checked that I’d be willing to pay the top price, but it occurred to me, that depends on what is included—tables? linens? chairs? stage? Etc.”
- “I understand the DAAC always strives to be affordable, but I’m also aware that there have been times in the past where it’s struggled to meet its financial obligations.”

For that reason, I’d like to see some kind of tier system and/or means-testing for hiring the space and equipment so that larger businesses, non-profits and organizations pay a higher price than individuals and small bands. I know DAAC isn’t looking to become a for-profit, but break-even shouldn’t be its goal, and a reserve fund should always be maintained, IMO.”

# Music at the DAAC

(Poll numbers evaluated from a 1 to 5 rating.)

Performance Space 4.8

Live Streaming 4.5

Recording Performance 4.5

Open Mic 4.6

## Feedback, opinions, or ideas about *music* at the DAAC

- “More arts integration with the community youth will be wonderful (when safe) as this has been sorely missing for many during the pandemic.”
- “I love what you are doing here. I am a local musician just starting out. I’m excited to have a place like this so close to my house!”
- “As a neighborhood resident, I love the idea of an open mic night.”
- “So excited to have you in Creston!”
- “Would love some classes, workshops, meet ups to involve the local youth. Maybe organize events with students at City Middle/High”
- “Performances paired with fundraisers/item drives”
- “Children’s programming. Firstly musicians that are kid friendly (but not necessarily kids music) like breathe owl breathe that begin and end at areasonable time (done by 8?). Informal jam sessions that kids can join in on/be mentored by local musicians. Kid friendly dance parties. Also a big void in Creston is Library programming. I do not know why Vanbelkum doesn’t have any childrens programming such as story time. If space is their issue i would LOVE to see a partnership with GRPL. Another idea is using the space as a micro-cinema.”
- Everyone is doing such a wonderful job! I can’t wait to see the evolution of the new space and see how it’s utilized.”
- “I live in Ferndale and run a similar collective called Scheme 13 along with my studio I/O Detroit. I’d like to work together with you on forging a better connection between East and West Michigan like how it used to be in the days of Skelletes etc. I think there’s a lot to be done as the world comes back. Up the punx. Stay safe!”
- “All of the above pls and thx! <3“

# Arts at the DAAC

Gallery and Exhibition Space: 4.7  
Live Drawing/Open Art Events: 4.5

Affordable Arts Workshops: 4.7  
*Poll numbers evaluated from a 1 to 5 rating.*

## Feedback, opinions, or ideas about *art* at the DAAC

- “It would be great to have classes or workshops I could attend together with my kids.”
- “Community art workshops!”
- “Workshops!! Yes!”
- “What about an open art time- like open gym kind of thing, but for all ages (with parents) ?”
- “I love these ideas. My kids are very interested in art, and I would enjoy an art event (not tiedye so much). I wonder how you are working with/competing with Lions and Rabbits, which already offers some of these events in the neighborhood. I don't think there can be too many, and their classes seem kind of sporadic.”
- “Love the idea of art workshops!!”
- “I love all of these! How could anyone not love these? Thinking of kids having a cool safe space to unleash their inner artists is great”
- “Yes, local reduced price art classes for adults and children sounds absolutely amazing. In my personal experience there is a lack of adult art classes that is affordable.”
- “I would love to see some education events focusing on practical matters like gardening, first-aid/CPR, sewing, bicycle repair, basic survival skills, basic automobile maintenance, home finance, and other daily life skills.”
- “There are already spaces in Creston for art workshops, so I wonder if the better thing to do is uplift those spaces by referring people there? Just a thought, but otherwise totally love the idea as long as we're being courteous of neighboring spaces.”
- “I'm not much of a visual artist outside of filmmaking. But I support it all! That being said, how about some indie film stuff?!”

# Youth/Family Programming at the DAAC

Partner Programs: 4.7

Study Pods and Internet Access: 4.5

*(Poll numbers evaluated from a 1 to 5 rating.)*

Art & Music Related Youth

Programming: 4.8

Family Nights: 4.5

## Feedback, opinions, or ideas about *youth/family* programming at the DAAC

- “Really love that last one. Since y’all have so many great ideas, it seems you might need to find ways to do some of them at the same time. For example, having the Art and Music related Youth Programming happen during Study Pods to give some motivation to get HW done. Could be a little tricky to pull off, but there may be something useful here.”
- “As a resident with young kids, I struggle to find places to nurture their creative side in a low pressure environment. Being able to do things there as a family would be wonderful.”
- “Yes yes yes!!!! Would love extra focus on youth in the neighborhood and local schools. So many opportunities for awesome outreach! Very excited for these possibilities!”
- “I have two teens who would benefit from the youth programs. As a large family the idea of something for us to do all together is exciting”
- “Great idea incorporating family activities”
- “I’d love to see art ideas incorporated into the family nights! Also, I think probably family afternoons like - sat or sun afternoon might work better for families then nights, just a thought. You should also connect with New City Neighbors- they do good work with youth in the creston neighborhood.”
- “As a family right around the corner, I love all of these options”

- “As someone who works for a Creston neighborhood school I’m sure teachers at my school would love to help volunteer!”
- “GRPL, WMCAT, etc, they would be great for kids who might not be able to frequent the main branch or WMCAT’s physical location. Game night, also, I can’t think of any place near there that has those, it could be really popular. Maybe have a rep from one of the area game stores bring in their open games and help people with rules? Or a game night might be hard unless there’s the same games there regularly, but maybe money can be raised to buy games? They can be pretty expensive x though I love it myself and would bring my family for games!”
- Partnerships are great but I think the DAAC should stay focused and recognize that there are a lot of similar programs that are already there. Of course these ideas for youth are amazing but I would hate to see the DAAC be only a pure after school day care/ boys and girls club when serving the entire demographic would increase access to everyone other than children. GR is really focused on adult drinking and bars. That’s okay, but GR is lacking in art and cultural experiences for adults in the community.”
- “Gave so many 4s and 5s that I wanna say I’m especially passionate about art and music programming FOR youth - as performers / attendees etc. All ages venues are so rare and that’s the demographic that needs the love the most, imo.”
- “Study pods/internet access is a much-needed resource & a good idea, I just wonder if it’s not redundant with the Van Belkum library next door, and have questions about what would be required for the setup (desks, laptops?) and standards for adult volunteers in charge of supervising any unattended students.”
- “Don’t try to do it all. Stay true to DIT all ages art and music venue mission, i.e. you don’t have to be a community resource center on top of all of it.”
- “I said I love all these ideas, but most are not things that I would personally be a part of (as a non-youth/someone that doesn’t really work with youth or have children)”
- “The internet thing sounds good on paper. I would just caution you to not let it get to a point where you’re running an after hours daycare for teenagers lol.”

# Community Outreach at the DAAC

Small Group Meeting Space: 4.5

Internet Use: 4.3

Supply Giveaways: 4.6

*(Poll numbers evaluated from a 1 to 5 rating.)*

## Feedback, opinions, or ideas about *community outreach* at the DAAC

- “We have a couple of great food distribution centers already in the neighborhood. They often do school supplies and clothing. Stick to the arts.”
- “Another area to double dip: Community access to wifi could be during the Study Pod time.”
- “I like the small group meeting space idea as I just helped to organize a non-profit for animal welfare in the Creston Neighborhood. It will be nice to have a space we could possibly use to collaborate and organize with volunteers”
- “Not sure how this would be different than the library in terms of internet, etc. I know that youth after school having something to do has been a big problem. The library on plainfield tried to help with this, but I’m not sure they’ve really succeeded either, and then you have people who are ‘afraid’ of these youth hanging around the library. They really need some kind of safe place to hang out and something to do after school. Particularly, middle school age. Would love to see this addressed- I guess this should have gone on the youth page ;) “
- “I love the focus on neighborhood involvement”

- “I’ve become a little wary of giveaways. There is a fine line between charity and justice. If there is a specific need that has been expressed by neighbors and can be met by DAAC, great. Giveaways assume what people need, and don’t often offer the agency of choice. My kids come home from GRPS and other events with so many bags of junk or duplicate items. Maybe instead some kind of supply library, for items that are less readily available and could be borrowed (I’m not exactly sure what those might be like).”
- “I think the community piece will happen naturally through rentals on off days that don’t have prebooked programming if you set it up that way. I would stay away from trying to be a drop-in center in addition to a venue since that seems like a potentially labor intensive/separate mission that you could build in later — but this is just my very cursory review of your ideas and I’m sure you guys have it figured out ;) Excited for you!”
- “yep yep yep. This kind of stuff is important-- I think especially the internet accessibility. That’s hard to get in places without paying for it yourself or paying for drink/food to sit somewhere.”
- “Keep events going. To be a vibrant community space it needs to be in use as much as possible!

## Some things our community loves about the DAAC...

- “gives opportunities to small touring acts that may not otherwise find an appropriate venue; accessible programs and opportunities for local amateur artists to participate”
- “it has always seemed to be a safe place for underdogs!”
- “All ages, no pretense, safe space for youth and up and coming bands/artists”
- “I like that the DAAC has always provided a forum for any and all types of art and expression.”
- “The most “human” public venue I’ve ever been to. The DAAC seems to attract people who are VERY supportive of the artists. An opener known only by a few gets as much courtesy as the top-billed. Everyone is very encouraging and very appreciative. “
- “Always liked that shows had a chillier vibe. That you could see kids there. Highschoolers with their parents. I brought my mom to a DAAC show because I knew she would feel comfortable and get to enjoy music. Not feel like I had dragged her to a weird party.”

# What they *hope* to see in the future...

- “Art opening, spoken word, bands, author readings, community outreach”
- “more inclusive programs like band lottery, comrades fest etc”
- “Let’s get some fundraising going and throw it at booking huge bands. “
- “Better PA so we can hear the vocals “
- “All ages shows. Welcoming for people who don’t drink. Different show environment than bars trying to make money off booking shows.”
- “Local open mic”
- “art galleries/art shows (I would love to show my work), shows. Would love to see programming from artists whose work is maybe more abstract or unfamiliar to me in format.”
- “Stay true to DIT roots, continue to collaborate and innovate, stay creative”
- “Workshops, shows, art shows, youth programming, community volunteer opportunities “
- “Zoey and I want to rent the space once a month just for her and I to do some collaborative art projects but thought maybe once it is safe again to host a bi-weekly art event open to everyone. “
- “I would like to see more community education and activism events.”
- “live painting would be sweet”
- “Same stuff :)”
- “A forum for interested parties to discuss events at the DAAC/meet other musicians and artists.”
- “Maybe theatre nights?”
- “Art workshops”
- “Dance parties!”
- “COMMUNITY OUTREACH”
- “Community gathering space”
- “Youth arts programming. Encouragement for use of arts in social movements.”
- “Singer-songwriters. Collaborations and in-the-round events.”
- “I’ve got young kids now - 3,5,7 I’d love for there to be some affordable art lessons, programs, etc. for kids! My husband is really into art too, and would love to do some drawing lessons or have some space to do pottery or print making, etc. It would be amazing if you guys had supplies and there was open time/space to pay a

small fee to use it, “

- “More curated theme shows that are very timely - maybe responding to current/local events. “
- “Crafting circles!”
- “Music, expressive dance, and everything art.”
- “Art galleries”
- “A way for youth to learn the ins and outs of running shows”
- “A wide diversity of artists (local and visiting) and early evening events”
- “Hosting capabilities for recovery peer groups (eg: like Beer City Recovery), or other non-secular peer groups need a home. Also bring back the local musician discussion group; cause this scene has a DEI i ssue.”
- “I would like to see that same energy revived in our city! The older we get, the less likely we are to find “house shows”, and the DAAC

made it so much more intimate than going to other venues to see a show”

- “Art exhibitions”
- “More community based benefits/events for a cause.”
- “Concerts and shows, hardcore, punk, pop punk, ska bands”
- “Art classes for youth, especially middle school and high school”
- Classes/events for range of youth ages”
- “Diverse local bands, something art related for kids on weekend mid-mornings?”
- “Kid art classes!”
- “I would love to see workshops for students on recording and performing.”
- “Street festivals/events with art and music”
- “the continued partnership with our l ibrary”

## Overall Themes

- Collaborate with other groups for space sharing and offering programming
- Offerings for youth and adults - keep it all ages
- Make it an affordable community space
- Open classes and creative times for adults and youth

