

➤ **Users of public spaces, current and future**

- Publics that want to view art work.
- Gift shop shoppers
- Students from University of the Arts, Curtis Institute
- Groups from the suburbs come into KC.
- Donor involvement through their support of student projects
- Young adults and school children

➤ **Uses of public space, current and future**

- Mounting or displaying artwork on moveable scaffolding or framing structures made of wood, to show cast art. Artwork could be easily moved to various locations inexpensively.
- Students could perform, inside and outside KC, at no cost. Performing is important to students.
- More performing is needed.
- Have students create colorful 30' x15' banners hanging from the Commonwealth Plaza ceiling. The banners would be school projects for children. Donors would love to support this project by purchasing materials.
- Students of all ages should be able to use free music rooms when no orchestral performances are scheduled.
- Trees and plants can be used to create walkways to various activities, use natural lighting to enhance the environment
- Rooftop Garden needs table seating and greenery throughout.
- Rooftop Garden should have astronomy shows, star watching.
- Student performances at no cost
- Have art shows.
- Have more festivals during the year.
- Have recording studios, presentation areas, classrooms, and internet access areas.
- The Merck Art Education Program does outreach at KC. More outreach and follow-up programs, to educate the public and school children, are needed.
- Close Broad Street for outside performances at KC.

➤ **What's liked about KC?**

- Great potential for future activities and attracting more users and newer users
- The “building works”, it simply needs to become busier.
- “KC is beautiful...open (spacious)...exciting...its comfortable.”
- “It’s big (Commonwealth Plaza) and gives a sense of privacy.”

➤ **Barriers at KC**

- “I don’t see any public space...there’s empty space but not public space.” Here, the speaker doesn’t feel that KC public space is truly public space. The space is large but not dedicated to the public’s use.
- “There’s nothing to do.”
- Users and potential users don’t know what’s happening in KC.
- Budgetary consideration determines how public space is used and its activities
- KC ushers/guards aren’t friendly, look intimidating and can stop users from entering the building.
- Barrier tape used to stop users from going into restricted areas also stops users from entering the building.
- The open spaces aren’t open all the time to the public; some public spaces are closed during performances.
- Public spaces appear to be closed at times or look uninviting, unfriendly environment.
- “People don’t know they can just walk in.”
- People don’t know when KC is open to the public.

➤ **Principles/criteria that can guide planners and architects**

- Public space should be needs defined as a public space, one that is dedicated for the public’s use.
- Artwork and greenery (plants, trees, and flowers) should be displayed throughout KC.
- Use green design in public spaces.
- Purpose to the public spaces
- Big donors’ wishes shouldn’t out way the wishes of the general public.
- Public spaces open to the public at all times.
- The Gift shop needs its own entrance
- Have plenty of seating and tables.
- Create a friendly welcoming environment.
- Public needs to be informed of KC activities.
- Use of technology in Commonwealth Plaza and other public spaces to inform users and potential users, i.e. video screens, animations, interactive displays, kiosks and “Y-5” internet linkage to music and videos.

- Use music on the outside to draw the public into KC to generate more users.
- Use of an icon like the Wanamaker's Eagle
- Use of natural light
- Be flexible in the design, set-up and uses of the public space environment; the public spaces should serve both concert goers and non-concert goers, dual purposes.
- Color should be used throughout KC.
- Exploit the unique public space and environment of KC. Be creative and use one's imagination fully.
- Public should know KC's regular hours.
- Public space should convey "ordinary use...day to day use of the space." One should feel that this is a place to go and have a cup of coffee or enjoy flowers.
- Training of staff, ushers/guards, in being mannerly, how to be friendly and welcoming to the public.

➤ **Summary**

- The group was eager to share their thoughts; it was as if their long pent views finally had an opportunity to be aired.