

Kimmel Center Public Space Project
Moderator Notes
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Submitted by Fatima Hafiz

Group Members

Transportation Advocacy Worker
Performing Artist
Organization Development Consultant
Former Board Member of Philadelphia Orchestra
Business volunteer for the Arts
Founding member of Chamber Orchestra-Resident Company
Architects and neighborhood residents
Retired Verizon Writer
College Students
Concert goers and members of Kimmel

Small Group Discussion

USERS

- church groups
- community residents
- senior citizens
- art school students
- tourist
- convention center participants
- museum patrons
- flower show patrons
- retirees
- vendors
- universities
- other cultural institutions
- cirque du soliel
- Philadelphia school district
- ticket subscribers
- performers
- customers of gift shop
- children
- renters of the facilities
- craft vendors
- local artist

OUTREACH/MARKETING

- make gift shop accessible to street as a bridge to the inside of the center
- restaurant open at other times
- grand piano in the plaza
- multi-media screens inside and outside-digital displays
- marquee
- more three sheet enclosures
- summer time and weekend activities outside and inside
- sidewalk activities
- greenery
- affordable food
- kiosks
- exhibits to attract more diverse audiences
- partnering with groups outside of center city- community arts centers
- resident companies to partner with schools
- make more inviting (fabrics, paintings, banners, plants , benches)
- seating areas appealing to different audiences
- contrast of choices and variety

USES

- wireless access
- piazza type structure
- student exhibitions
- arcade
- broadcast television and radio shows
- rotating art – frequently
- internet cafe
- seating for lunch -12-2
- free talent showcase for young talent
- diverse cultural events
- afternoon and Saturday puppet shows, magic shows, slide shows
- eatery
- classrooms
- free meeting space for student group

SUPPORTS

- schools – public, private, colleges, universities, special schools
- walk in traffic
- building being open more
- director of activities and logistics – funded from outside
- good space
- natural lighting
- roof garden

- architecture
- inside the theaters
- elegant detailing
- underground parking
- public transport access
- big restrooms
- verizon hall interior

BARRIERS

- affordability
- perception of upscale place
- architectural components not connected
- unions
- building closed during holidays
- transportation for some groups (PA Council of Arts provide busing grants)
- no street level view (paradox)
- human flow awkward
- invisible signage
- physical assessibility
- lighting (outside and inside)
- common wealth plaza- colors, cold, gray, black granite uninviting
- seating is insufficient and not to scale
- no seating in the garden
- restrooms inaccessible- none on the roof
- access to theaters limited
- location and critical mass visibility

PRINCIPLES

- Music as primary
- Variety of Arts (visual, literary, performing)
- Cultural Inclusion
- Architectural transparency
- Open hours
- Balance between intimacy and large scale