

Kimmel Center Public Space Project
Moderator Notes
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Submitted by Fatima Hafiz

Group Members

Art Museum Worker and member
City Planning Students
Kimmel Center Volunteer
Marketing Strategist
Director for public arts
Resident Company performer
Architects and neighborhood residents
Educator
Community base planner
Graphic Designer
Residents
AmeriCorps student/worker

Small Group Discussion

USERS

- children
- concert goers
- teens
- young adults
- students
- schools
- international visitors
- ethnic groups (latino)
- up and coming performers

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
- color lights, open doors, hours of operation friendly to different groups, website

USES

- free concerts
- concerts for kids
- coffee bar
- food court/ breakfast and lunch
- broadcast television and radio shows
- meeting space
- internet cafe
- conference space – non-profits – affordable rates
- summer block parties (events outside)
- art work display
- retail space
- eatery
- classrooms
- free meeting space for student group
- film festivals
- hands on workshops with artist and performers (take-away art)
- crafts market place

SUPPORTS

- using space outside
- marquee – make black box exciting
- greater promotions
- partnering (Philadelphia Fringe, University of Arts, Settlement Music School, corporate)
- trees, greenery (outside and inside)
- eatery, coffee/tea stop
- maps (handheld, center board, kiosk)
- doors opened with more consistency
- re-doing box office (develop streetscape, open to be seen inside from street level)
- opening gift shop to street (increase hours of operations)
- wide screen TV showing events schedule- ongoing and future
- interactive devices for passersby - “Art meet Imagination”

- Technology in the public spaces (internet café, gift shop , hot spots, wireless, wifi)

BARRIERS

- fortress quality
- must be an intentional act to come to the Kimmel
- lighting dark at doors (inside and outside)
- lack of bathrooms on roof top garden
- poor signage (difficult to reach bathrooms)
- unclear information booth vs. box office
- poor public visibility (black granite wall needs softening)
- poor acoustic quality outside of theaters
- gift shop not inviting (no awareness of space and lack of consistency in operation hours)
- Philadelphia is not a planned stop of choice for cultural programming (Kennedy Center, Montreal Canada)
- Seating not appealing or comfortable –(flying saucer seats, low seating, not enough seating)

VALUES

- quality of life
- understanding
- young adults
- creative expression
- communications
- diversity (socio-economic, creative-music, visual arts, fringe fest, sense driven,)
- mobility

PRINCIPLES

- Human scale design
- Lively spaces
- Welcoming atmosphere
- Cultural Inclusion
- Music (all other art forms should relate to the music art form in some way)
- Accessibility and Affordability
- Partnerships
- Free programs