

Chronic Poetics: Accessibility Survey Report July 2022

Written by Nikki Marrone · Produced by Point Positive Publishing & Colliding Lines

Key findings

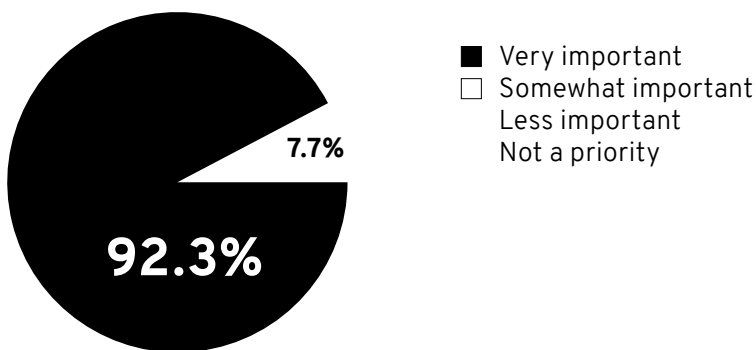
- Engagement in the arts was very important for the participants of this study.
- The biggest barriers to engaging in the arts was cost, time, and accessibility.
- Participants would engage more in arts if it was cheaper, accessible, and supportive.
- Participants stated that it was important for them to be supported with things like submitting their work, exhibitions, and research. It was important to be supported by community, artist networks, family, and friends.

Full Report

Participation in the arts

A large majority (92.3%) of participants stated that participating in the arts was very important to them and the remaining participants (7.7%) stated that it was somewhat important. No participants stated that it was less important or not a priority.

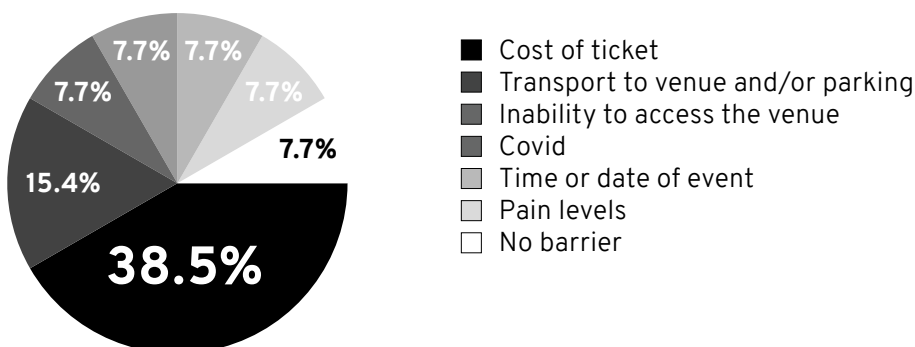
How important is participation in the arts for you or your charge?



Barriers to attending art events

The majority of participants (38.5%) stated that the cost of a ticket was what stopped them from going to events. The second highest barrier (15.4%) was issues with transport to the venue or parking. Other barriers mentioned were inability to access the venue, issues with the time or date of the event, Covid and pain levels. One participant (7.7%) stated that they had no barriers to attending arts events.

What is the biggest barrier you face when it comes to attending an art event?



What issues prevent you from taking part in arts activities?

pain	time	cost	fatigue
accessibility	age	anxiety	chronic pain
imposter syndrome	knowledge	lack of network	covid-19
mobility	nationality	physical limitations	disability
			lack of support
			location
			submitting work

What three things might encourage you to take part in arts activities more often?

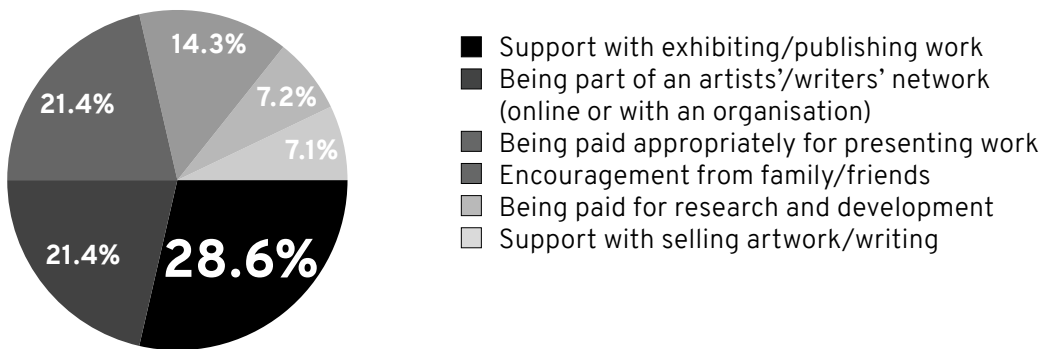


The three main things that participants mentioned was that they would take part in arts activities more if they were cheaper to participate in. People commented that they would like cheaper tickets, cheaper submission fees and clearer guidelines. Participants mentioned that they would engage more in the arts if venues were more accessible. Participants also mentioned that they would engage more in the arts if they had a supportive community or people to go to the events with them. Participants also stated that they would engage more in the arts if they weren't limited by their pain levels, fatigue, or symptoms from their disabilities.

Support as an artist

The majority of participants (28.6%) stated that the most important support as an artist was support with exhibiting or submitting their work. 21.4% of the participants stated that it was important to them to be part of an artist's network or community. 21.4% also stated that it was important for them to supported with selling their artwork/writing. 14.3% of participants stated that encouragement from their friends and family was important to them. Other factors that are important to the participants of this study is to be paid appropriately for presenting their work and to be paid for research and development.

What support is most important to you in your work as an artist?



What advice would you give to any arts organisation planning to develop activities and events for creative people like yourself?

- Offering flexibility, option and support is important, because things are fluid when you have a chronic illness and can change. It's important to offer support, as sometimes people like me need varying levels of support – some days it might be more than others.
- Multiple selection stages so that artists get acquainted with organisations regardless of whether they're selected at the end.
- More free events and easier access such as online via Zoom etc.
- To consider accessibility and to talk to people with disabilities.
- Look into grants to help support the artists, consider using grants to be able to provide free online workshops. Extra funding for accessibility and ask the artist what that accessibility measures might look like.
- Try not to have event go on too late
- Clean facility, plenty of ventilation
- Remember that not all artists have unlimited time and money to be involved
- avoid any voting tactics (who's involved should be based on merit, not likes).
- Be open about fees etc
- Be as open and as accessible as possible. Be kind. Kindness always matters.
- Try to keep costs low when possible.
- Create thematic meetings or types of meetings such as critiques or discussion of a certain movement, so the meeting has a direction; Try to build collaborations between the artists in the group