

Listening Session 2 Highlights

**Date and time:** September 14, 2016, 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

**Venue:** Packard Performance Hall

**Attendees:** 89

**1. Use and maintenance of the facility**

The theatre is an amazing facility. The entire facility has been around for a long time and needs to be maintained properly. Spaces could be re-purposed. Desire to have meeting spaces and event spaces in the FAC.

**2. Personal/intimate experience provided by FAC**

The staff make people feel very welcomed. Many staff know and recognize patrons. The donor circles and societies are valued communities. They appreciate the diversity of the staff.

**3. Provides fine arts exposure to school children, but should do even more**

The docent program is wonderful because it exposes students to fine art. The Bemis School of Art also exposes children to fine art they otherwise wouldn't have experienced. FAC could improve by attracting more school groups.

**4. Need to be more accessible to underserved groups; should do more community engagement.**

Need to engage ethnically/racially diverse constituencies, and residents of all parts of the Colorado Springs area. There should be more visible public outreach, community education programming, and programming that inspires public engagement in general. There is concern that the merger with the college would make the FAC even more elite and inaccessible.

**5. Make the FAC a destination**

Attendance needs to be increased. The FAC should be the place to go in Colorado Springs. It needs to be busy and vibrant. Make this city an arts city

**6. Improve art collections expertise and exhibits**

The southwest art collection is a gem, but there currently isn't proper expertise with that southwest art collection. There isn't enough staff for the exhibits and collection currently. The museum should get bigger and better traveling arts exhibits. There could be more use of technology in the exhibits.

**7. Improve the Financial Standing; Maintain/increase donations**

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**Number of Comments:** 65