

# Creative Youth Development Beyond the School Day



## PRESENTERS:

**Heather Ikemire**, National Guild for Community Arts Education

**Sheila Sears**, Colorado Creative Industries

**Traci Slater-Rigaud**, President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities

**Anita Walker**, Massachusetts Cultural Council

# OVERVIEW

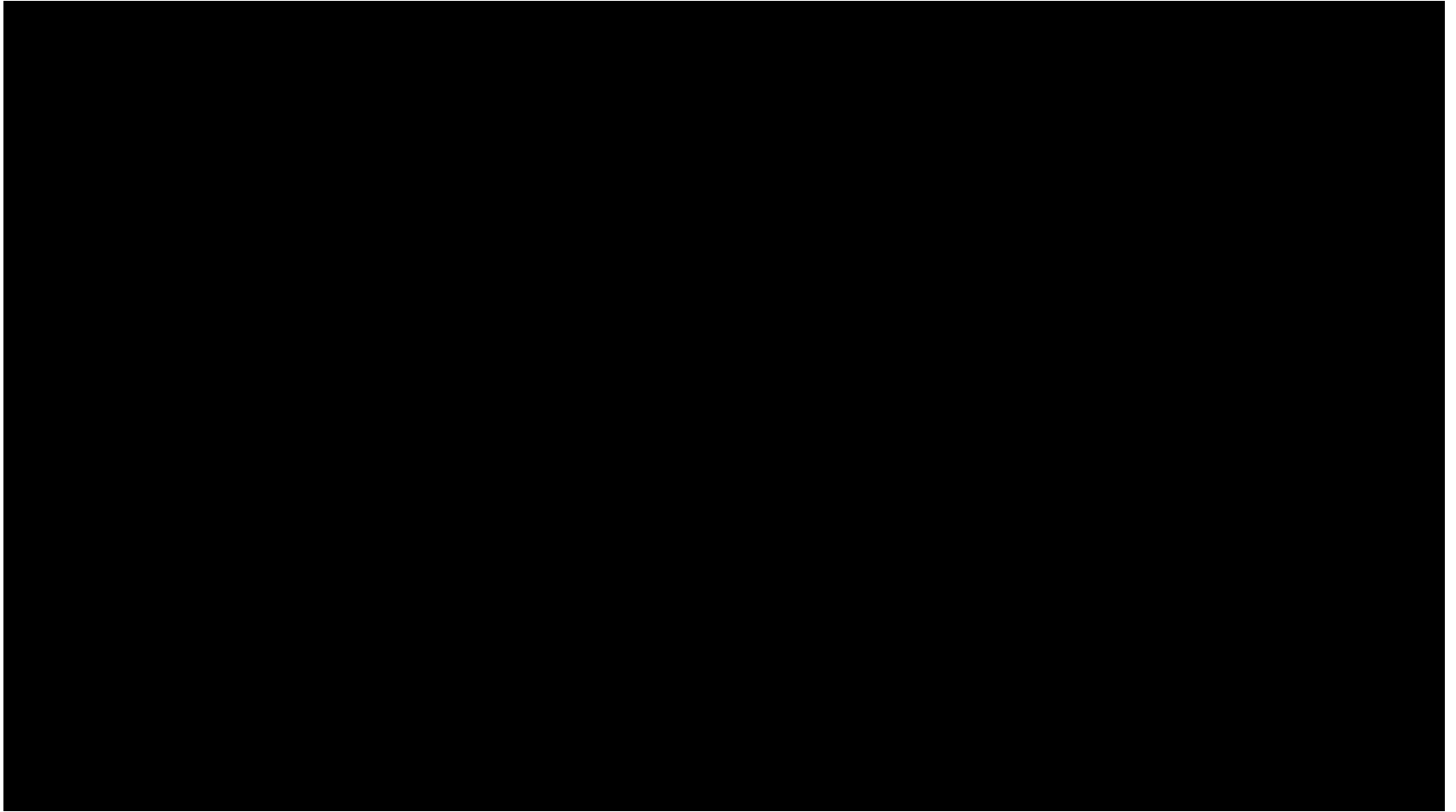
- **Format**
- **Objectives:**
  - Provide context about creative youth development field and offer resources where you can learn more.
  - Share recent research and policy and action agenda entitled “Collective Action for Progress Through Creative Youth Development.”
  - Introduce and discuss key roles that SAAs can play to support and advance creative youth development.
- **Takeaways**

# CREATIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

- **Are out-of-school programs that spark young people's creativity and personal and social development through high quality learning experiences in the arts, humanities, and sciences.**
- **Emphasize both discipline mastery and the acquisition of the personal and social assets young people need to thrive.**



# ART WORKS, ST. LOUIS, MO



# SETTING THE AGENDA



National Summit 

on CREATIVE

MARCH 27-29  
BOSTON, MA

UNITE  
CELEBRATE  
ACTIVATE

YOUTH

DEVELOPMENT



Massachusetts Cultural Council





# NATIONAL RESEARCH STUDY

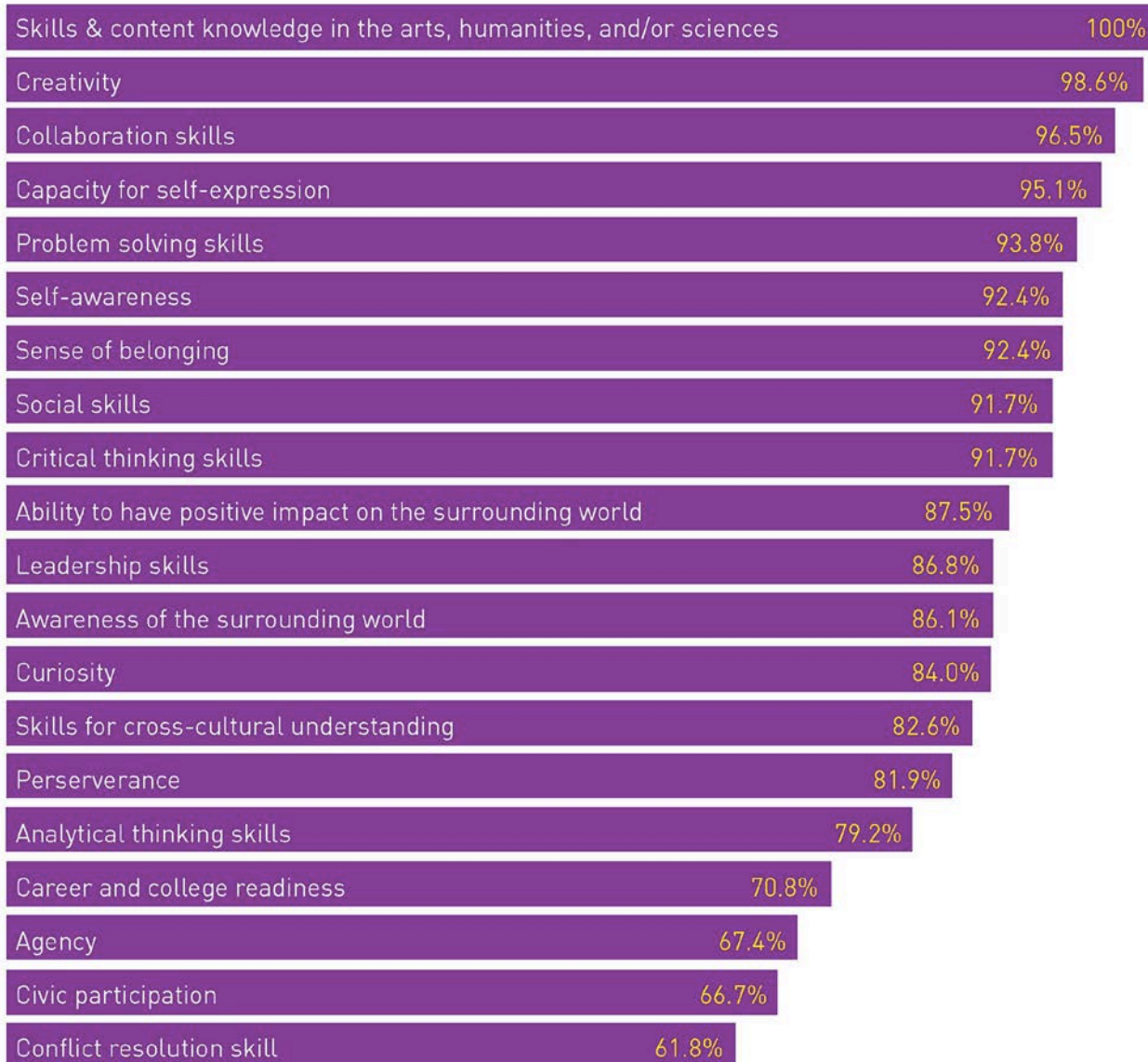
- **Focus Groups and Interviews:**
  - Over 60 youth and adult leaders
  - Representing nearly 30 organizations
  - Across 18 U.S. cities and towns
- **Survey:**
  - Over 200 responses from more than 150 programs
  - 70% of responses were from adults
  - 30% of responses were from youth

# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The process through which young people develop “personal and social assets” that prepare them to thrive—including assets fundamental to their:

- **Physical development**—e.g., “good health habits”
- **Intellectual development**—e.g., “knowledge of essential life skills,” “critical thinking and reasoning skills”
- **Psychological and emotional development**—e.g., “conflict resolution skills,” “coherent and positive personal and social identity”
- **Social development**—e.g., “connectedness,” “ability to navigate in multiple cultural contexts”

# TARGET OUTCOMES:





# CREATIVITY

**Creative Youth Development programs provide young people opportunities to:**

- Create work in the arts, humanities, and/or sciences; and
- Apply their creative skills to solve problems, shape their own lives, and imagine and build the world in which they want to live.



# IMPACT

## **Creative Youth Development Programs are a driving force for:**

- Youth development
- Community development
- Social change



# INGREDIENTS FOR EFFECTIVE CREATIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Wallace Foundation Report:

*Something to Say: Success Principles for Afterschool Arts Programs from Urban Youth and Other Experts*

## Ten Principles for Effective, High-Quality Afterschool Arts Programs

1. Instructors are professional, practicing artists, and are valued with compensation for their expertise and investment in their professional development.	6. Positive relationships with adult mentors and peers foster a sense of belonging and acceptance.
2. Executive directors have a public commitment to high-quality arts programs that is supported by sustained action.	7. Youth participants actively shape the programs and assume meaningful leadership roles.
3. Arts programs take place in dedicated, inspiring, welcoming spaces and affirm the value of art and artists.	8. Programs focus on hands-on skill building using current equipment and technology.
4. There is a culture of high expectations, respect for creative expression and affirmation of youth participants as artists.	9. Programs strategically engage key stakeholders to create a network of support for both youth participants and the programs.
5. Programs culminate in high-quality public events with real audiences.	10. Programs provide a physically and emotionally safe place for youth.

# KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES

**Interviewees identified 9 strategic issues for the summit to address:**

1. Engaging alumni
2. Collective impact for youth
3. Community development
4. Communicating impact
5. Evaluation and research
6. Field building
7. Funding and sustainability
8. Responding to changing times
9. Social justice and social change



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

**1. Collective Impact for Youth**

**2. Communicating Impact**

**3. Community Development**

**4. Funding & Sustainability**

**5. Social Change & Social Justice**

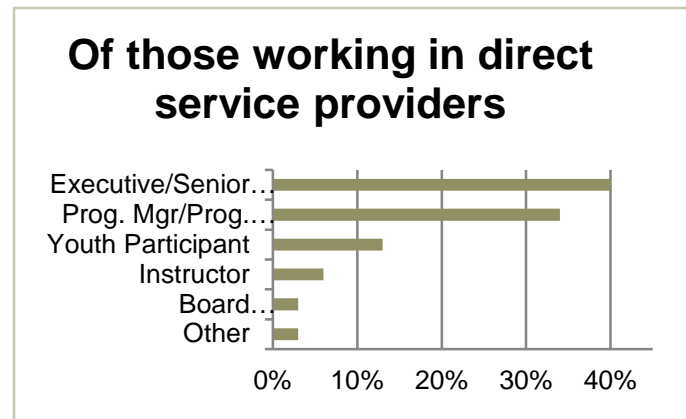
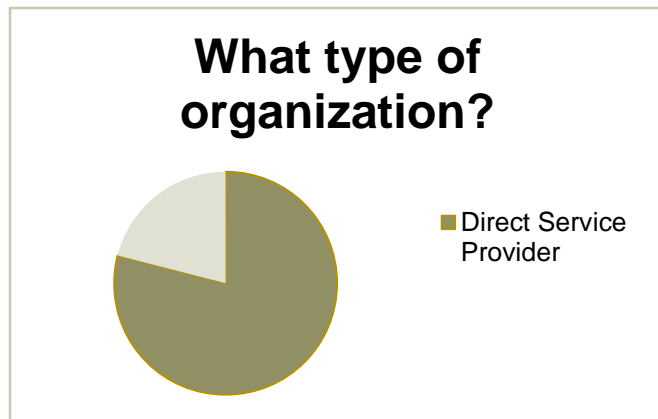
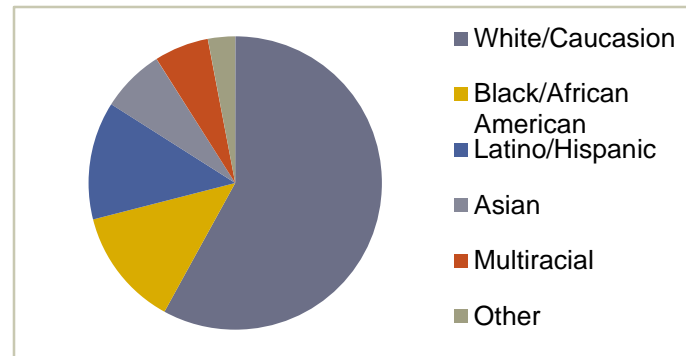
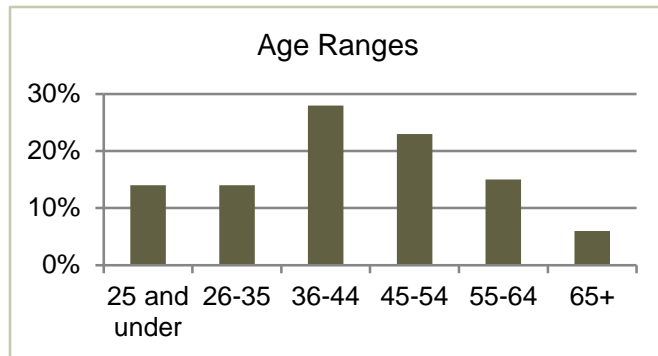
Shared

Adults

Youth

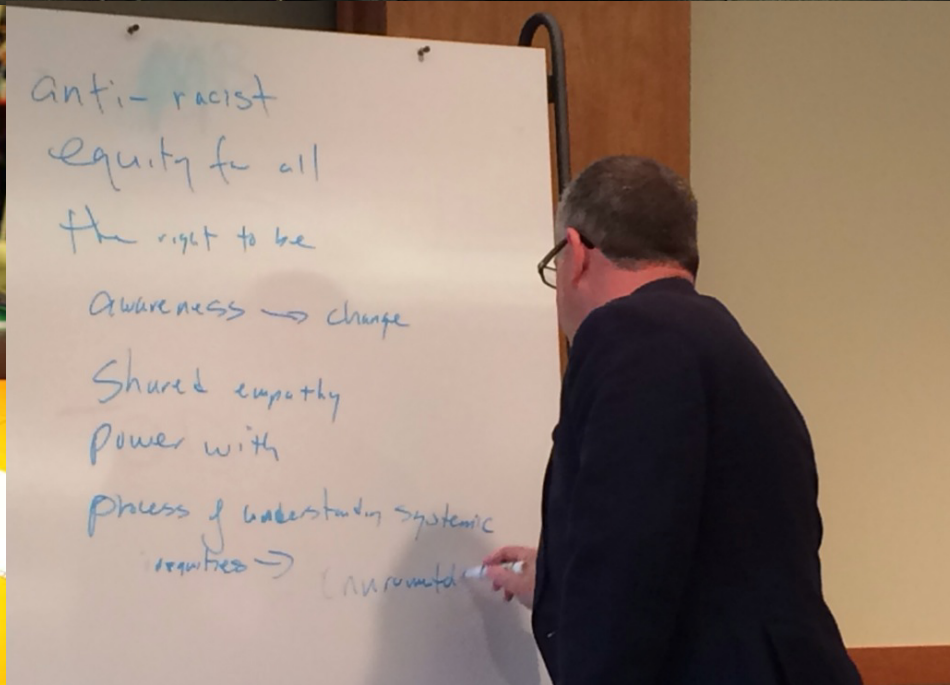
# NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CREATIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Over 200 participants from 25 states and the District of Columbia.





# FIVE CAUCUSES WORKING OVER TWO DAYS





# COLLECTIVE ACTION FOR YOUTH: An Agenda For Progress Through Creative Youth Development



# COLLECTIVE IMPACT FOR YOUTH

**Position creative youth development as the catalyst for dynamic cross-sector collaborations to ensure young people's academic, professional, and personal success.**

- Build organizational readiness for collaboration toward shared youth development outcomes.
- Invest in structures and strategies that facilitate collective action to support youth and their successful transitions into careers, college, and adult life.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**Establish young people and their creative youth development programs as key leaders in discovering and developing opportunities to improve the livability and economic viability of their communities.**

- Connect creative youth development programs with local community development initiatives to improve community outcomes.
- Amplify youth voices and strengthen their roles as key decision makers in community development initiatives.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CHANGE

**Develop and deepen opportunities for young people to create a more just and equitable society.**

- Collaborate with youth to integrate their voices and leadership into the core structures and practices of creative youth development programs and the broader sector.
- Champion creative youth development programs as spaces in which young people develop positive self-identities, recognize liberating and oppressive forces, and activate these programs' potential for impact.

# DOCUMENTING AND COMMUNICATING IMPACT

**Document and boldly communicate the vital impact and experience of creative youth development.**

- Invest in capturing and analyzing impact through shared language, systems, and tools.
- Demonstrate impact in order to cultivate shared ownership of creative youth development across sectors.

# FUNDING AND SUSTAINABILITY

**Support and advocate for a strong creative youth development sector with effective business models, new revenue sources, and partnerships that generate adequate funding and sustain the sector.**

- Organize and mobilize as a sector to increase capacity, sustainability, and impact.
- Advocate for and develop funding strategies to increase the strength and long-term impact of creative youth development programs.

# LAUNCHING THE AGENDA: ACTION STEPS



## I commit to...

“Bring the collective agenda to potential partners and funders as a starting point for an ongoing conversation about the importance of this work.”

“Bringing this agenda to my development department to strategically plan our next steps in building our OST programs for teens.”

“Contacting the Mayor of Pittsburgh's office of Arts and Culture to schedule an appointment with a student representative group to further the Creative Youth Development initiative within the communities of Pittsburgh.”

“Bringing anti-racism workshops to our entire organization.”

“Make sure that innovative creative youth development programs are funded through and represented in all community development planning and implementation projects in my community.”

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES



National Guild for Community  
Arts Education

[www.nationalguild.org/creativeyouthdevelopment](http://www.nationalguild.org/creativeyouthdevelopment)

President's Committee on the Arts  
and the Humanities

[www.pcah.gov](http://www.pcah.gov)

National Arts and Humanities  
Youth Program Awards

[www.nahyp.org](http://www.nahyp.org)

Massachusetts Cultural Council

[www.massculturalcouncil.org](http://www.massculturalcouncil.org)

Alliance for Creative Youth  
Development

[www.cocreativeyouthalliance.org](http://www.cocreativeyouthalliance.org)