



How do you envision art, music and culture in our community?

Join the community dialogue on the future of
The Epicentre & Performing Cultural Arts Center

Mira Mesa Senior Center
8460 Mira Mesa Blvd.
San Diego, CA. 92126

Wednesday, April 12, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Hosted by:  MIRA MESA
SENIOR CENTER

RSVP by April 10:



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858-860-5355

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction – Mitz Lee 11:00am
2. Why are we here? 5 minutes
 - a. Mitz Lee
 - b. Sandy Smith
3. Community Discussion - How do you envision art, music, and culture in the community? – DM 11:15 am
Lunch/Breakout – DM
4. Open Discussion – DM 12:00pm
5. Outcomes / Next Steps – Lainie Hardman 12:20pm
 - a. Plan of Action
 - b. Letter campaign
 - c. Webpage / Facebook
 - d. Next meeting

How do you envision art, music, and culture in our community?

Table 1 - Jason's Table

- Epicenter became a "rock venue."
- Multipurpose stage w theater and stage
- Make it sustainable.
- MM does not have an art museum.
- Need creative classes (instruments, life skill classes, etc.)
- Entrepreneur, craft, art fairs
- Film festivals, community movie nights
- Video game night
- Ways to get creativity and collaboration going.
- Keep RSVP
- Question - was there a stage and lighting? Yes, there was (but not great lighting).

Table 2 -

- Space was supposed to be 4000 sq ft.
- Would like a place to meet a new friend - cafeteria with chess/scrabble.
- Extension of home
- Soundproof rooms for practice (instruments)
- Full sized theater
- Building to be open 10am to 6pm, with booking possibility after hours
- Full kitchen
- Poetry reading?
- Childcare?
- Exhibits for fund raising. Casino night?
- Ice cream socials
- AC for classes

Table 3

- Incubator for talent
- ***Connect to groups in art, music, culture.***
- Anime, cosplay, dancers, performers - connect all cultural groups.
- TED talks

- Flexible exhibit space
- Functional outdoor space
- Commercial kitchen
- Promote diversity of MM

Table 4

- Focused on teens and youth in community.
- Kids who need space for relaxation, skateboard park, space for exercise.
- Bicycle and scooter parking
- Pool table, ping pong table, dedicated night for youth
- Cross pollination with MMSC for classes, programs
- Give people space to be creative with caution and oversight.

Table 5

- Multi use/function space.
- Meetings, theater
- Keep a focus on teens.
- Community theater, painting, dance
- Employees - who is going to be running it?
- Who will coordinate activities?
- Alternative forums of art expression (podcast, comedy, storytelling, etc.)
- Pathway to incorporate art that reflects community on side of road or on building - have art reflect MM values and priorities.
- Pastor perspective - bring in education and share education, share diversity.

Table 6

- Stage/space for music
- Art and gallery show.
- Trade skills (cooking, etc)
- Spaces for cultural art classes (pottery, glass, digital arts, etc.)
- Improv space
- Teen adulting classes (financing, taxes, etc)
- Boy scouts/Girl scouts.
- LGBTQ space

- Role playing community (D&D, Ren faire)
- Outdoor performing area

Table 7

- What would the children like to see in MM? (Thoughts from 11-year-old Katherin B.)
 - Gaming room, recording studio (youtubers), teen world, how to start a business - themed rooms.
 - Pool table
 - Acting classes, performing arts space
- Should be able to stay IN MM to do activities.
 - Homeschooling activities, groups, to come together in MM
- ***Would like to see a copy of the lease of ownership/title report?***
- Mark P. - All suggestions are viable, but need money - getting money from city or county will be complicated - consider getting corporate money (sponsorship)
- For all the program suggestions - there are organizations that can be partnered with who do similar program ideas

Table 8

- Senior citizens choir

NEXT STEPS

- Compile ideas from community discussion
- Letter campaign to city letters to let community plan our own future.
- JOIN our facebook group page.
- Share your info and stay in touch with us.

COMMENTS / Q&A

- Funding - can we get local businesses involved?
- Bike Park / skateboard park - make it safer for kids.
- Background on movement for Epicentre (Jeff)
 - Harmonium gave up on the Epicentre
 - It requires a lot of repair work - city's estimate for \$3 M
 - Money from county - proposal \$4.5 M

- Increased budget to \$8 M (county)
- Recommendation to take advantage of funding from county.
- RSVP
 - The disrepair and contamination of buildings are issues.
 - Make building all inclusive - performing arts center (PQ, Sorrento Valley, etc)
 - Multi-cultural programming
 - Resurrect MM Theater Guild
- Sandy
 - See Epicentre be the anchor of the park.
 - Performing arts center would pull everything together.
 - Stage isn't a real stage.
 - MM and surrounding communities NEED something nice to pull everything together culturally.
- People need to see the center.
- Intergenerational activities (performance arts)
- MMSC requirements - show up, enjoy, make friends.

Summary: It is clear the vast majority of the people who attended this dialogue want a space for art, music and culture – a Performing Arts Cultural Center and to have further discussions in order to explore how we can make that happen.