

Public Engagement Highlights



PINELLAS COUNTY: WHAT WE ARE BUILDING ON

Strengths

Abundance of beauty, arts, and culture.

One of most unique counties in the State of Florida.

Growing and diverse population.

Diversity of arts events throughout the county.

Diversity of art forms and disciplines.

Highly educated and informed arts community.

Unprecedented number of museums in County.

Collaborative arts community.

Established visual arts sector and growing performing arts sector.

Each community has a distinct and unique identity.

International arts draw (Dali, Chihuly, etc.)

Creative Pinellas as the county arts agency.

PINELLAS COUNTY: GAPS / ISSUES TO ADDRESS

Growing racial divide in areas like housing, wealth, and education.

Artists struggle to afford living and working full-time in their craft in the county.

Inclusion and opportunities for artists of color.

North / South divide affects arts opportunities, attendance, etc.

Smaller communities do not have arts support resources.

Public art lacking in communities across the county.

Lack of alignment with municipalities, residential communities, corporate community (who should invest in the arts), and the arts sector itself.

Unstable funding structure for the arts and Creative Pinellas.

PINELLAS COUNTY: GAPS / ISSUES TO ADDRESS

Lack of equity and access for BIPOC and underserved communities to arts/cultural experiences and resources.

Need for more intentional efforts to promote diversity and inclusion within arts organizations (staff, boards, programming etc.)

Perceptions that many arts offerings are not welcoming or relatable for certain demographic groups.

Geographic and transportation barriers limiting access, especially between north and south areas of the county.

Funding constraints for smaller arts groups and those led by minorities.

Competition rather than collaboration between some arts entities.

PINELLAS COUNTY: SELECT PLAN OPPORTUNITIES

Positioning Creative Pinellas as a convenor, facilitator, and connector. Ensuring focus is on local and outside creative tourism.

VSPC as the marketing arm for the county and Creative Pinellas as the creative programmer.

Using arts/cultural programming for youth development, mental health support, community building.

Connecting public art programs across the county with a focus on challenging local issues.

Elevating awareness of the county's diversity of cultural traditions (Caribbean, African American, Asian American etc.)

Centralizing an "arts concierge" role to promote and provide accessibility to offerings county-wide.

Partnerships between arts groups and other sectors like faith communities.

Collaborative arts marketing programs

More connection between business and arts community in a meaningful way.