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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Arts Committee**

Monday, October 27, 2025 – 6:30 PM

This meeting was conducted via Zoom

Minutes:

Board Members Present: Alida Camp, Addeson Lehv, Rita Popper, Peggy Price, Robin Seligson, and Chelsey Webber-Brandis*.

*Public Member

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 2

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Item 1: Debriefing discussion on the Fall 2025 Arts Show.

The Arts Committee recognized the valuable contributions of the volunteers, Board staff, Chick-fil-A, and building staff who contributed to the show. After the introduction, the committee looked over the highly positive overall results of the survey that was sent to the 129 artists who attended the show. A discussion over space parameters was initially brought up, with the plan to use the middle row and the area by the park if necessary. There were also comments made on working to improve publicity for the event. The committee is still looking for more musicians and musical options for the show. One of the committee members suggested sashes to be worn by Board members and staff at the next show for easy identification.

The committee is still trying to get more painters to participate in the show. The Board office will try to obtain contacts at local art schools, in order to reach out to them for more artist submissions. Publicity was also considered a factor to improve upon for future art shows, though the posting of art show flyers did improve across almost all of the avenues in the area near the art show. The committee would like to reach out to New Yorkers who don't subscribe to CB8 or the elected officials' newsletters. There was also a brief but animated discussion on whether to ask the artists in the survey if they sold anything.

One Committee member wondered whether the Art Show or the Street Fairs would attract more Board newsletter signups.

Item 2: Art-Bridge update on construction fence art for Memorial Sloan-Kettering.

John Souza from Art-Bridge presented an update on the Memorial Sloan-Kettering construction fence. They are working with Lenox Hill Neighborhood House to create art for the fence to go up in February 2026. The artist Carl Waverfield has been working with the Lenox Hill artists on the theme of memories. In response to a suggestion to use the artists' words as well as visual art, it was explained by John Souza that New York City prohibits lettering on construction fences. Art on construction fences can contribute to the neighborhood in many ways, offering a space of visual expression to the community. While there had been much graffiti prior to the P.S.183 art installation, since the art piece has been up, the fence has only been tagged once. The committee requested that Art-Bridge include the CB8 Arts Show in their own publicity, and John Souza suggested that Art-Bridge would be able to support the art show. Murals would also be an enhancement of public spaces, which may

be possible to create with CB8 and the Art-Bridge.

Item 3: Future plans for the Arts Committee.

The Arts Committee decided that June 6 would be the tentative date of the next Arts Show (rain date June 7). Artists who participated in the last three shows will not be required to resubmit their art, but will need to commit to adherence to the Art Show Community Board 8 Manhattan acceptance letter. The Board office will obtain names of institutions, such as schools, with artists who may be interested in submitting art for the show.

We briefly discussed having an art show for children, but it was decided that such an event would require considerable planning to be properly implemented. The committee also discussed the idea of asking a museum that could potentially host such an event.

Item 4: Old Business

No items of old business were discussed.

Item 5: New Business

No items of new business were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Alida Camp, Chair

Preliminary Report: October 2025 Art Show Survey

Prepared by Jon Kraus

Out of 129 artists who participated in the Art Show, 91 artists responded to the survey as of October 22nd.

1. How would you rate your overall experience with the Fall 2025 Art Show?

Out of **91** respondents:

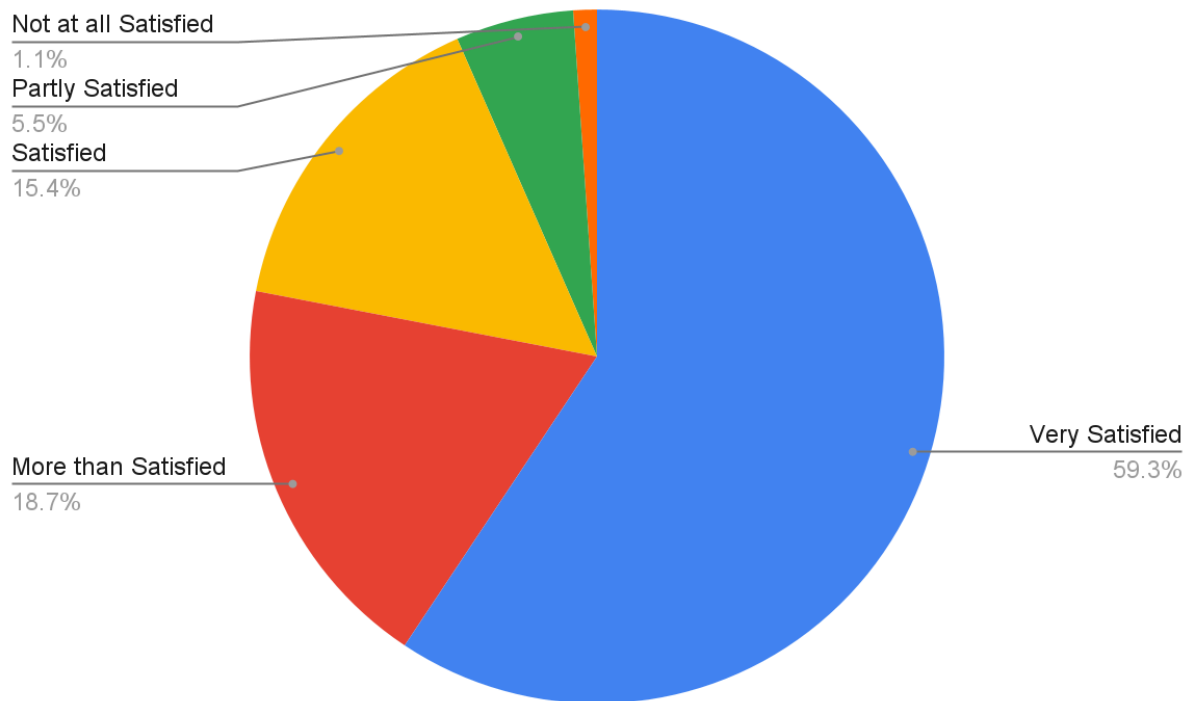
54 respondents selected “*Very Satisfied*,”

17 respondents selected “*More than Satisfied*,”

14 respondents selected “*Satisfied*,”

5 respondent selected “*Partly Satisfied*,”

1 respondent selected “*Not at all Satisfied*.”



2. How did you hear about the Fall 2025 Community Board 8 Manhattan Art Show?

Out of **91** respondents:

35 respondents **previously participated** at the show.

17 respondents heard about the show through **word of mouth (friends, neighbors)**.

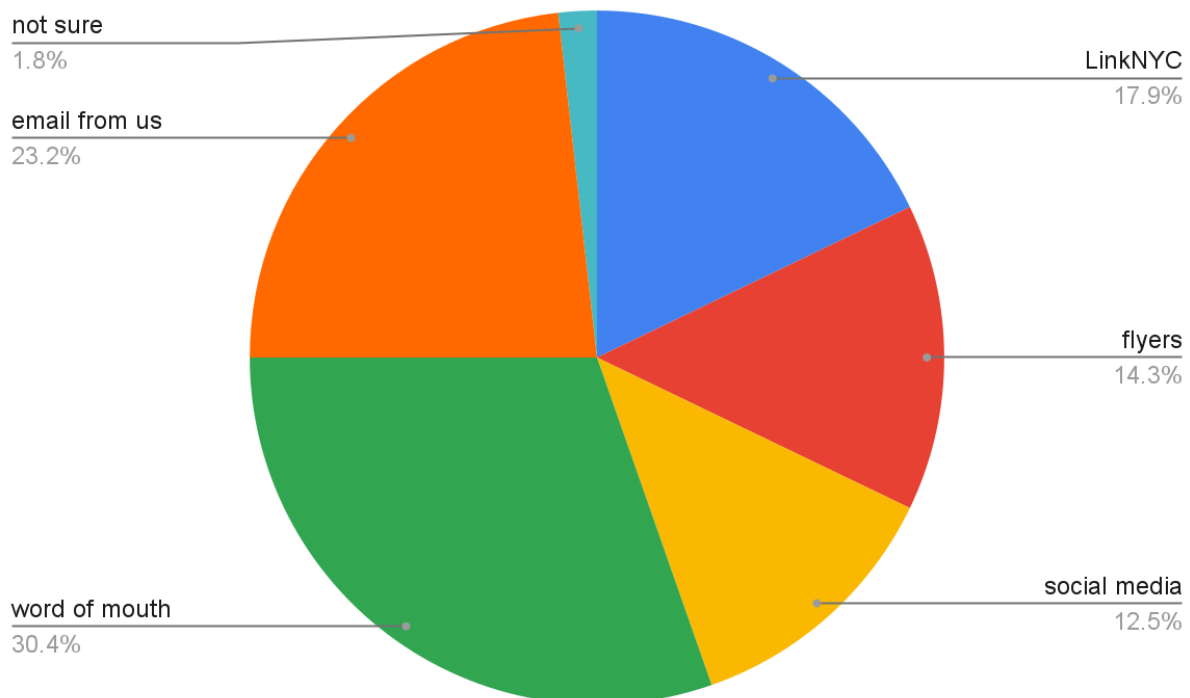
13 respondents heard about the show through direct **CB8M correspondence** (including the open submissions **email** to previously attending artists).

10 respondents who heard about the show from the **LinkNYC Kiosks stations**.

8 respondents heard about the show through **physical flyering** around the neighborhood.

7 respondents heard about the show through **social media** (Specifically Instagram & Facebook).

1 respondent wasn't sure how they heard about the art show.



3. Have you participated in a previous CB8M Art Show or Crafts Fair?

Out of **91** respondents:

68 respondents said “Yes.”

23 respondents said “No.”

4. Would you prefer the rain date to be in the same week (Sunday) or the week after the selected date of the event (next Saturday)?

Out of **91** respondents:

76 respondents said “Same week (Sunday)”

15 respondents said “Week after (next Saturday)”

5. How would you rate your interactions with the Community Board 8 Manhattan staff during the submission and confirmation process prior to the show?

Out of **91** respondents:

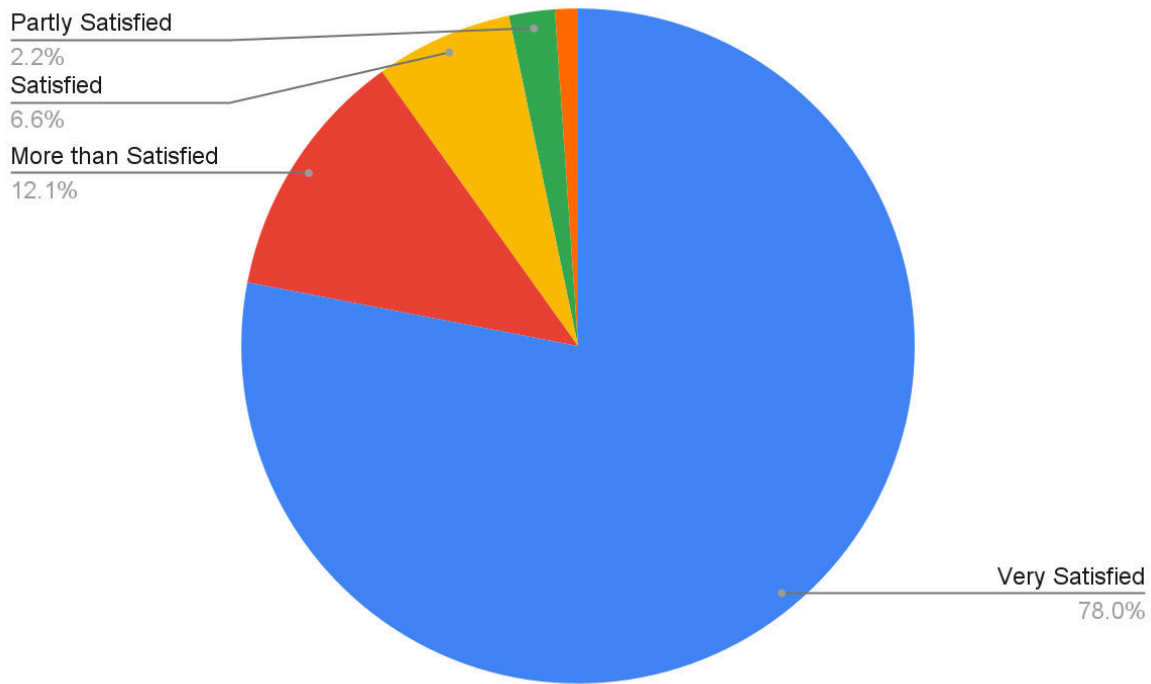
71 respondents selected “*Very Satisfied*,”

11 respondents selected “*More than Satisfied*,”

6 respondents selected “*Satisfied*,”

2 respondents selected “*Partly Satisfied*.”

1 respondent selected “*Not at all Satisfied*.”



6. What could the Community Board 8 Manhattan staff have improved on during the submissions and confirmation process prior to the show?

Out of the **61** respondents:

31 respondents had nothing to **add and were satisfied with the process.**

14 respondents stated that **communication toward artists could be improved.** Specifically, the time between the submission of the application and when acceptance letters are received. They also wanted to improve communications about the submission process and how correspondence is received.

6 respondents suggested **receiving pre-designated spaces for artists or changes to how spaces are designed.**

3 respondents suggested more accommodations like more options for **food, beverages and tables/chairs.**

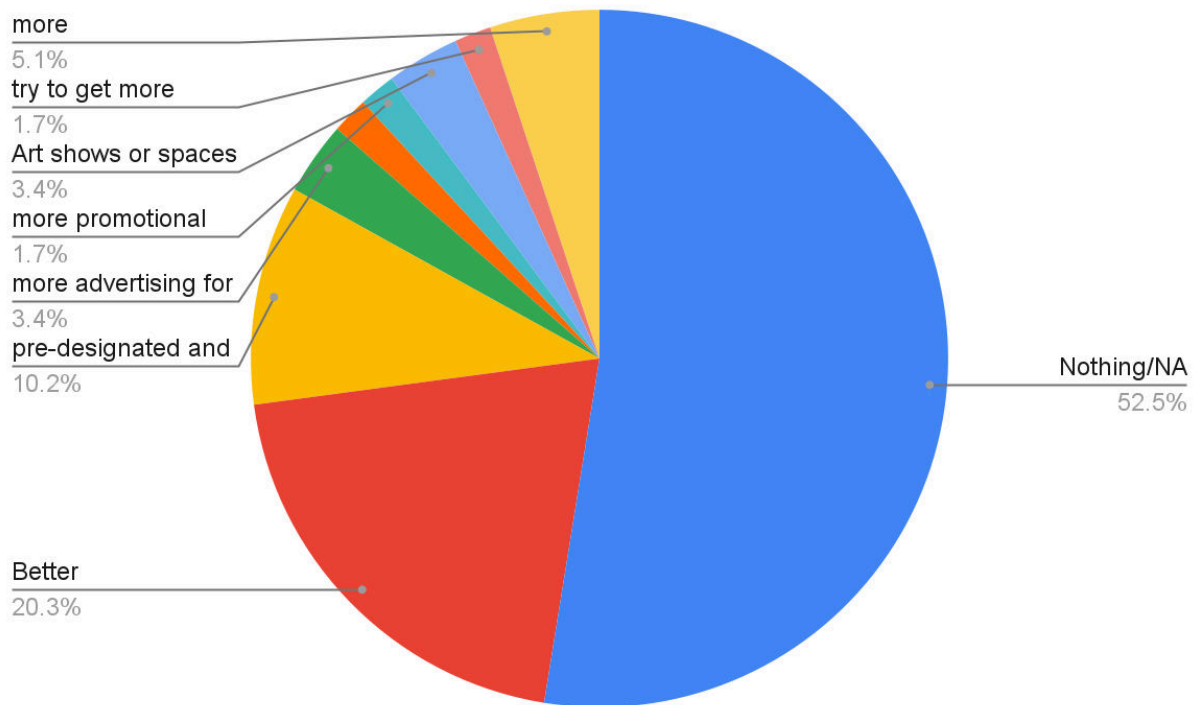
2 respondents suggested **more advertising of the event in the community.**

2 respondents suggested a **show or space dedicated for children.**

1 respondent brought up **having more check-in volunteers**.

1 respondent suggested more use of **promotional materials including artists names**.

1 respondent suggested there **aren't enough artists from the community**.



7. How would you rate your interactions with the Community Board 8 Manhattan staff, Arts Committee, and volunteers during the day of the show?

Out of **91** respondents:

66 respondents selected "*Very Satisfied*,"

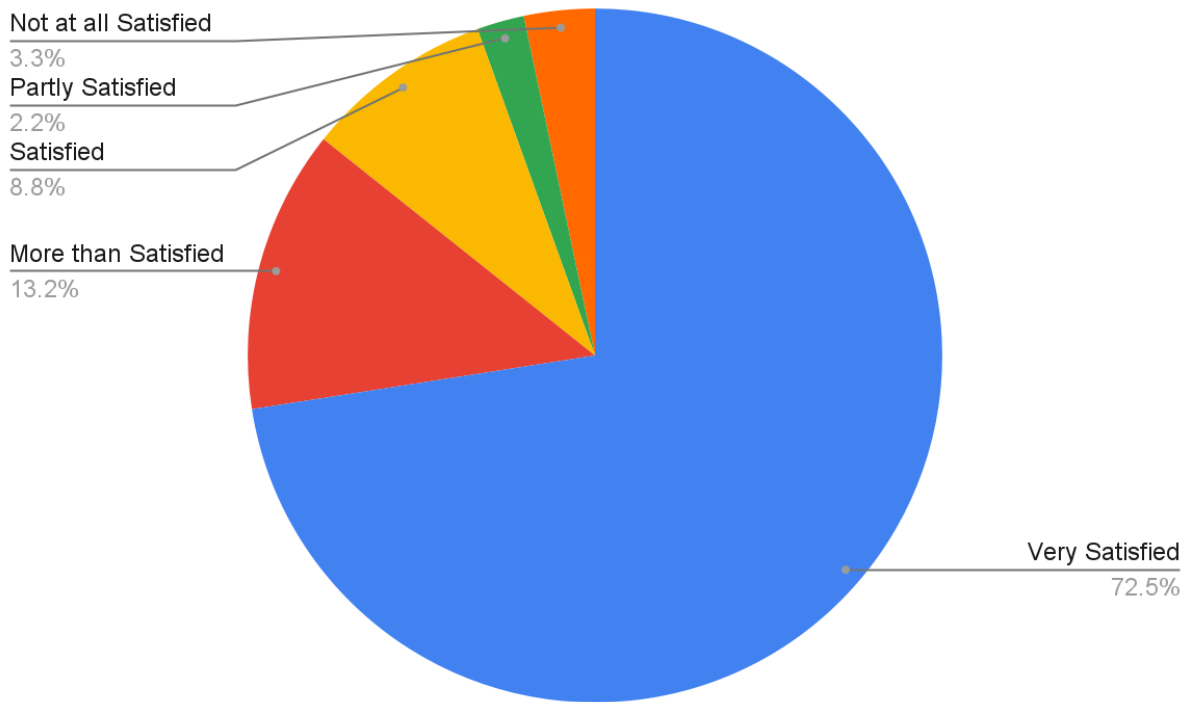
12 respondents selected "*More than Satisfied*,"

8 respondents selected "*Satisfied*,"

2 respondents selected "*Partly Satisfied*."

3 respondents selected "*Not at all Satisfied*."

0 respondents selected "*N/A was unable to attend the show*"



8. If you said N/A above, why were you unable to participate in this year's show?

No answers, as those who answered the survey all attended the event.

9. What could the Community Board 8 Manhattan staff, Arts Committee, and volunteers have improved on during the day of the show? (Consider: arrival and wait times, set-up period, table/chair availability, position of the booths, amount of foot traffic, quality of the catering, ability to access staff/Committee member/volunteers, clean-up period.)

Out of the **63** who responded:

23 respondents did not have anything to add for improvement and were satisfied with everything.

17 respondents mentioned the **outlined spots and space, and the sign-in process** could have been better.

- 4 respondents mentioned wanting either setup time to be longer or early for artists

- 4 respondents mentioned that the allotted spaces were too narrow and would have liked to receive more space for artists
- 4 respondents felt that the sign-in was confusing and disorganizing
- 2 respondents mentioned wanting to have assigned spaces at the show
- 2 respondents said artists should have better ways to help load and unload cars near the location of the event
- 1 respondent mentioned no need for a center aisle

7 respondents suggested **materials for setup, chairs/tables should be provided or a delivery rental to deliver tables and chairs** paid for by the exhibitor.

6 respondents said that there could be a **better effort to advertise the show**.

- 1 respondent mentioned that some visitors found out about the show as they walked past it and did not know about it beforehand.
- 1 respondent suggested to have a directory of the artists
- 2 respondent suggested more signage at each end of East 91st Street for the event
- 2 respondent mentioned the lack of publicity for the event

4 respondents mentioned that it would be nice to have **more food options for those who are vegetarians**.

2 respondents mentioned that the event had **lower foot traffic than anticipated**.

1 respondent mentioned wanting to **change the location of the event**.

1 respondent mentioned **extending the event to 6 PM**.

1 respondent mentioned the **visibility of Board members and staff** could have been better and suggested using bright color hats to identify staff.

1 respondent mentioned having artists only from the Community Board 8 district.

10. Would you be interested in attending a future Art Show or Crafts Fair organized by the Arts Committee as a participating artist/crafter?

Out of **91** respondents:

90 respondents said "Yes."

1 respondent said "No."

11. If not, please explain why.

Out of 1 who responded Yes:

1 respondent said yes, but that their only disappointment was their lack of sales.

12. Please write down any further comments you may have for the Community Board 8 Manhattan staff and Arts Committee in terms of putting together this show or future shows.

Out of the 56 who responded:

40 respondents said it was a great show and would love to join the next upcoming show.

5 respondents had **suggestions for improved promotion and advertisement of the event.**

- 1 respondent suggested **changing the color of the flyer.**
- 1 respondent suggested **advertising to a wider audience.**
- 1 respondent requested more **publicity for the event.**
- 2 respondents suggested **children entertainers for the event.**

5 respondents suggested altering aspects of how the event operates

- 1 respondent suggested having better ways of **identifying staff and volunteers.**
- 1 respondent suggested considering **donations for creativity in the community.**
- 1 respondent suggested adding **alcoholic vendors to the event.**
- 1 respondent suggested **extending the event to 6 PM.**
- 1 respondent suggested **more open space for the artwork into the center aisle.**

3 respondents had **suggestions of alternative events dates or changes to the rain date.**

- 1 respondent suggested changing the event date to Sunday.
- 1 respondent gave suggested dates for future art show events to align with the holidays like before Mother's Day or before Valentine's Day.
- 1 respondent suggested instead of having the rain date the next day (Sunday) to have it next week on the following Saturday.

1 respondent was confused about the **sign-in location for the event and felt it wasn't clear to the artist.**

1 respondent suggested **better communication of the event.**

1 respondent suggested to have **more outreach events similar to the Art Show on Roosevelt Island.**

13. How satisfied do you feel with the amount of foot traffic you received during the Fall Art Show?

Out of **91** respondents:

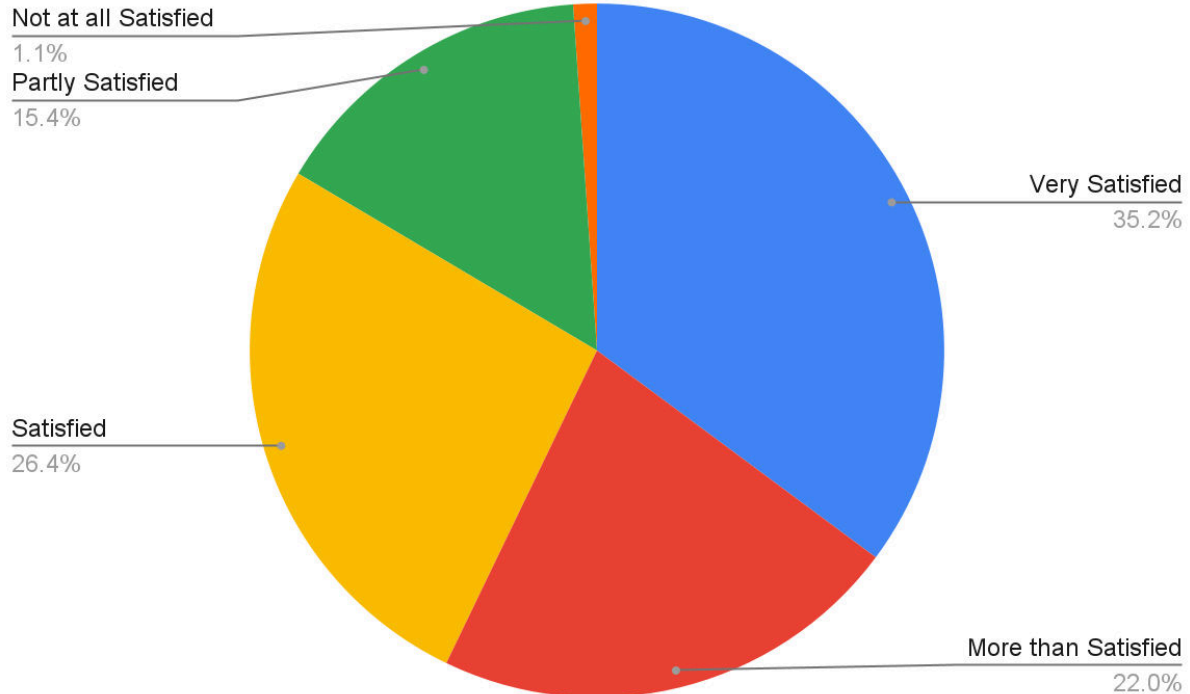
32 respondents selected “*Very Satisfied*,”

20 respondents selected “*More than Satisfied*,”

24 respondents selected “*Satisfied*,”

14 respondents selected “*Partly Satisfied*.”

1 respondent selected “*Not at all Satisfied*.”



14. What improvements would you suggest in the event layout to help benefit foot traffic?

Out of **54** respondents:

12 respondents said they thought the layout of the event was great and saw no issue foot traffic at the event.

12 respondents suggested **more flyers and advertisements to be posted for the event.**

6 respondents suggested using **better visible banners for events at the Second Avenue entrance.**

4 respondents suggested **entertainment, food trucks and drinks to attract more visitors.**

4 respondents suggested **increasing visibility on Second Avenue and Third Avenue of East 91st Street.**

- 3 respondents suggested adding tables to either end of East 91st Street.
- 1 respondent suggested adding something to make the event stand out more.

3 respondents suggested that **music play consistently throughout the event.**

3 respondents suggested **having an e-blast and more publicity about the event.**

3 respondents suggested **more space to be accommodated to artists.**

1 respondent suggested **adding directional signs to direct traffic to the art show.**

1 respondent suggested **not having the event on a hill.**

1 respondent suggested **having assigned spaces for artists.**

1 respondent suggested that the event **have no center aisle and have an indoor facility instead.**

1 respondent suggested **expanding to the sidewalks around the park, so it could accommodate more vendors and make the event more visible.**

1 respondent expressed that the **layout of their neighbors' design was taking away visibility for their artwork.**

1 respondent thought that last year's February 2024 Art Show event had more foot traffic than this year's.

Recommendations

- Visibility of staff/board members/volunteers
 - To have staff wear bright color hats or buttons to identify the staff (we did have buttons and name tags).
- Better advertising
 - Have more visible advertising at Second Avenue and Third Avenue entrances, through the use of signage or tabling at both locations.

- Increasing publicity was a consistent suggestion by artists.
 - Expanding the area of flyering in the district.
- Sign-in process at the art show
 - Some artists expressed confusion over the sign-in location, as they felt directions weren't clear enough.
- More space per artist
 - Some artists suggested having more space to operate for their artwork display.
 - To have pre-designated spaces, instead of waiting to be assigned to a spot.
- Food and Entertainment
 - Having a more diverse range of food options for artists and visitors. (To clarify, the usual local businesses that come to the event, were unable to attend the event at this time.)
 - Including more interactive activities to be a part of the event, like entertainment for children.

Recommendations from the office

- We should sign people in with Eventbrite or Airtable.
 - Should people start at Third Ave instead of Second so people don't need to schlep things up a long hill?
 - Arguments against this include:
 - Third Avenue is louder and further from the train, so people coming off the Q would have to go uphill anyway.
 - There's scaffolding on Second that people can stand under.
 - We should provide people directions to the bathroom in an email.
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Committee Comments on Recommendations

- Peggy Price, commented to reach out to painting organizations by advertising the art show to artists who do painting. Alida Camp, mentioned reaching out to non-profit organizations and academic institutions that focus on painting.
- The Arts Committee had an in-depth discussion about comments regarding advertising of the event. With multiple board members bringing up suggestions on how to expand advertising through social media or news publications and asked the office for assistance on how to resolve the issue of Art Show Event street flyers being removed.
- In addition, the Arts Committee brought up the recommendation about an entrance on Third Avenue, but it was decided that we could potentially consider the idea for future Art Show events.