



COMMUNITY EQUITY PROFILE:

ARTS & CULTURE

The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque created Dubuque's first Equity Profile in 2015, and we are updating it to reflect the community today. The Equity Profile provides information on how all people in the community are affected by various systems, such as housing, education and health care. It will inform leaders, community members and policymakers and serve as a guide for creating an action plan that supports Dubuque's growth as an equitable and inclusive community.

This snapshot, along with the final Equity Profile, will take shape based on three types of input: local data; feedback from community members through conversations and surveys; and local professionals working in each focus area.

How can you get involved?

1. Share your perspective at a community conversation.
2. Anonymously take an online survey.
3. Attend a monthly panel discussion hosted in partnership with TH Media.
4. Spread the word. Bring a friend to a conversation or share the survey link.

See upcoming conversation and panel discussion dates and take the latest survey: dbqfoundation.org/equityprofile

This snapshot of arts and culture, one of seven Equity Profile focus areas, provides a preview of what we have learned so far. The final Equity Profile will be completed in 2023 and will include additional information gathered on this topic and others.

AVAILABILITY

THE DATA

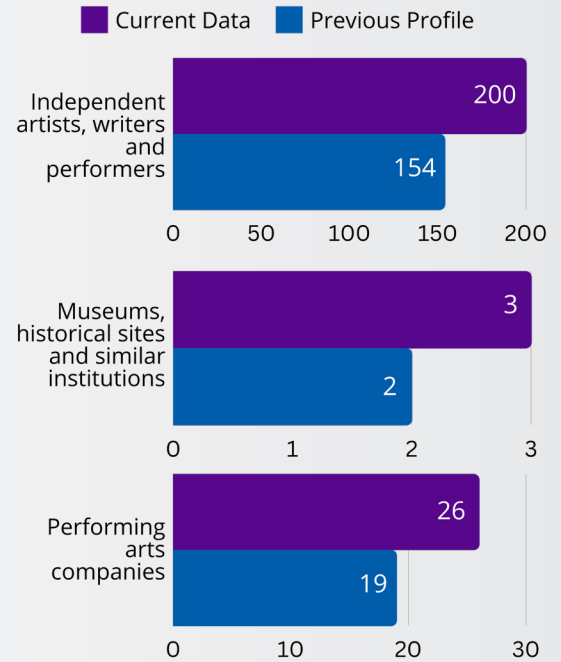
- ▶ The number of arts, entertainment and recreation establishments in Dubuque decreased by over 15% since the previous Equity Profile. However, the number of “nonemployer” arts offerings has increased, with the number of independent artists, writers and performers growing by 30%.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

- ▶ 85% of survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed that there are opportunities to attend art events in Dubuque.
- ▶ 28% of survey respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that information about cultural events in Dubuque is available and accessible. This number jumped to 40% for respondents 61 and older.
- ▶ Survey respondent: “Dubuque 365 is great and most of these organizations also use Facebook to publicize. People who say there is ‘nothing to do’ really aren’t paying attention.”
- ▶ Survey respondent: “While opportunities are available and have improved dramatically over the last 4-5 years, people still need to actively seek them out and make an effort engage. Most of these organizations don’t have big marketing budgets, so you really have to pay attention.”

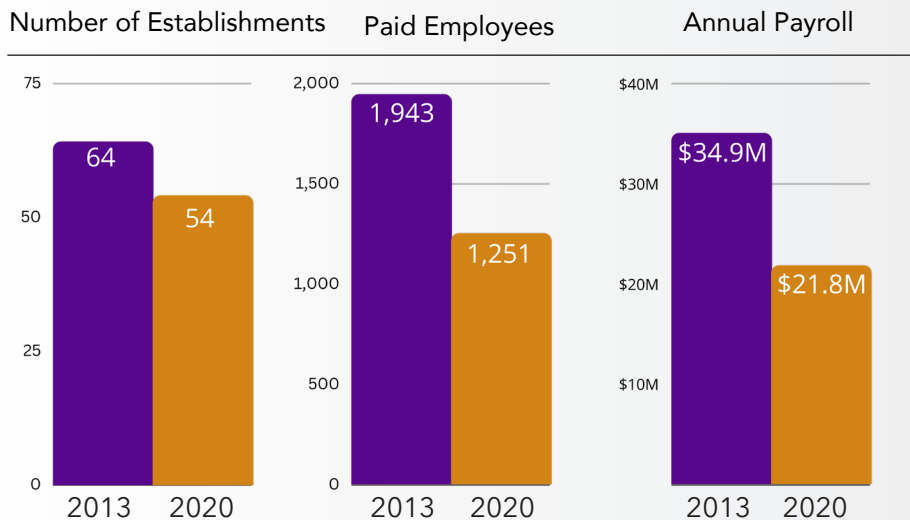
Types of Establishments

Nonemployer, Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ECNSVY Nonemployer Statistics, 2012 and 2019

Arts, Entertainment and Recreation Establishments Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area



Does Dubuque offer arts and cultural opportunities that cater to and **REPRESENT A DIVERSE ARRAY** of community members?

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2013 and 2020

DIVERSITY

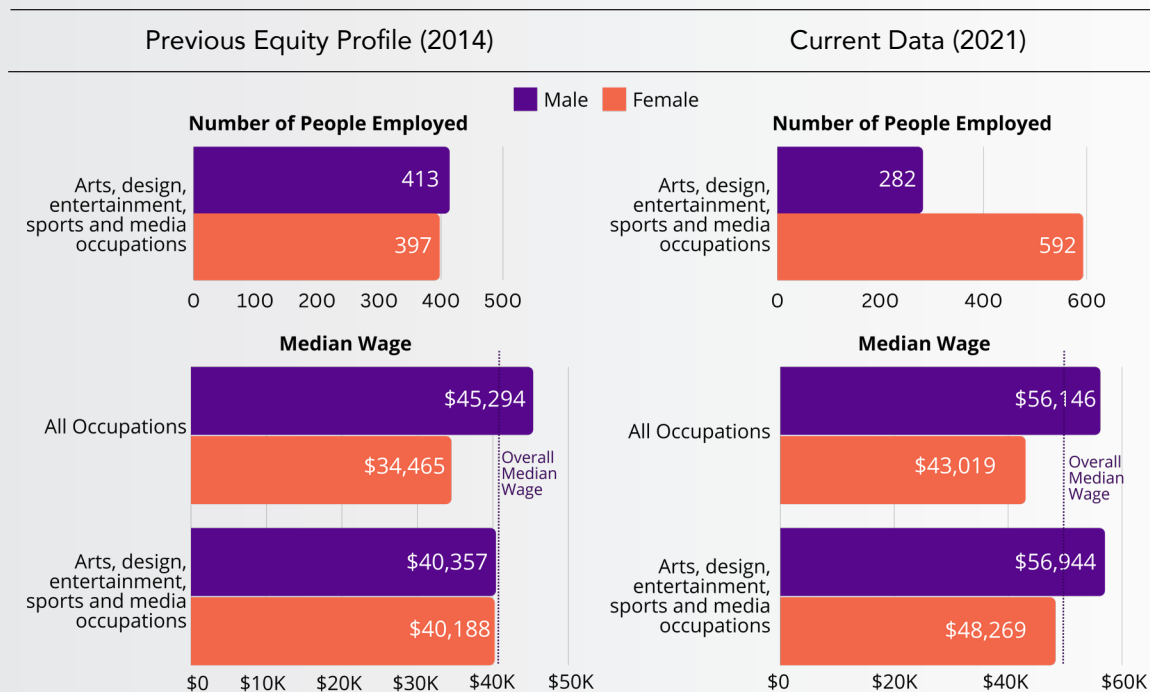
THE DATA

- ▶ The number of women employed in arts and culture occupations has increased significantly since the previous profile, with women now making up an estimated two-thirds of all positions. However, median wages have become much more uneven, with men in arts and culture occupations making, on average, 18% more than women.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

- ▶ Less than 9% of survey respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that their cultural traditions and celebrations are accepted in Dubuque.
- ▶ 25% of survey respondents said they had experienced bias, discrimination or exclusion in Dubuque related to arts and/or culture, though several respondents clarified that they had witnessed it but not experienced it personally.
- ▶ Survey respondent: "There are festive events themed on a tradition of my home country."
- ▶ Survey respondent: "There needs to be easy access and greater attention to traditions of other cultures who live among us and around the world. We need to learn about them so we can support and benefit from the many colors and textures of the patterns of our world."
- ▶ Survey respondent: "We do not spread the word well about the events other cultures are doing. They are not promoted well."

People Over 16 Employed and Median Earnings for Individuals in Arts, Design, Entertainment and Media Occupations, by Gender Dubuque County



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates for 2014 and 2021
Median Earnings are for the full-time, year-round employed population 16-years-old and over

Do Dubuque's arts and cultural opportunities **REFLECT THE MANY CULTURES** in the community?

ACCESSIBILITY

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

- ▶ 78% of survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed that Dubuque offers opportunities to learn about the traditions of other cultures, with only 17% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing. However, respondents were divided by income: 40% of those earning less than \$50,000 a year disagreed, compared to only 5% for those making over \$50,000.
- ▶ 77% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their cultural traditions were accessible and easy for them to practice in their community.
- ▶ Only 16% of all respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that if they were looking for arts and culture resources, it would be easy for them to access those resources. However, for respondents with a disability or chronic condition, that number increased to 43% (compared to 7% for individuals without a disability).
- ▶ Survey respondent: "I live downtown, north side. Adults and disabled people here have little access to art events. I don't drive, and the intersections in the winter are close to impassable."
- ▶ Survey respondent: "My exclusion has been class-based. I have attended arts events where I am not 'a member' and have been treated like an unwelcome guest."

How can we ensure that Dubuque has **ARTS AND CULTURE OPPORTUNITIES** that people can **ACCESS AND AFFORD?**

LOOKING AHEAD...

There are many ways to engage with the arts and cultural opportunities in the Dubuque region. Here are some resources that align with the themes in this report.

Event listings

- ▶ Travel Dubuque — Organization focused on tourism in the Dubuque region, traveldubuque.com/events
- ▶ Telegraph Herald — Local newspaper with an event calendar, telegraphherald.com/events
- ▶ 365ink — Free, semi-monthly publication focused on arts, entertainment and culture, dubuque365.com
- ▶ Julien's Journal — Monthly lifestyle magazine, juliensjournal.com/events
- ▶ Dubuque Arts Council — Organization promoting the arts and arts education, dubuqueartscouncil.com

Gallery directory

- ▶ Scenic Art Loop — Listing of member art galleries across the Dubuque region, scenicartloop.com/artistsgalleries

City of Dubuque resources

- ▶ Arts & Cultural Affairs — City agency promoting and supporting arts and culture, cityofdubuque.org/307/Arts-Culture
- ▶ Leisure Services — City agency overseeing recreation amenities, cityofdubuque.org/439/Leisure-Services

Museums

- ▶ National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium — Smithsonian-affiliated institution with exhibitions on the history, geography and ecology of the Mississippi River area, rivermuseum.com
- ▶ Dubuque Museum of Art — Iowa's first cultural institution with a collection of approximately 2,200 works and numerous events and programs, dbqart.com

Thank you to our host organizations, facilitators and scribes who have generously donated their time and facilities to assist with the community conversations. Information used to create this snapshot will be used to create the full Community Equity Profile in 2023.

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