

Glossary / Definitions

Art

Art includes the wide range of artistic activities people engage in, as well as the products of these activities. It must be said that what we think of as art can vary from culture to culture and may change over time. Art can unite or divide people, but in many cases it creates a connection between the product or artist and her/her audience. Art can be divided into categories such as Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Literature, and Sculptural Arts. Some examples of artistic activities include:

- Crafts
- Dance
- Film & theatre
- Folk art
- Graphic design
- Literature
- Painting
- Photography
- Poetry
- Pottery
- Printmaking
- Sculpture
- Storytelling
- Weaving

Community

The term 'community' refers to a group of people living in a neighbourhood with demarcated geographic boundaries and who are interconnected through various social relationships (Hillery, 1982; Lowe, 2000).

Community Engagement

This is the way in which community organizations act to build strong and mutually beneficial relationships with community members. It is also how community organizations engage with stakeholders members and special interest groups to effect change, as well as create and realize a shared vision within a community (Head, 2007).

Culture

A culture is a system of shared values, customs, beliefs, and behaviours. This system is employed and drawn upon by members of a culture as they interact with one another and the world around them. Often, being part of a specific culture creates a sense of belonging and place within a community or group of people. Cultural systems are transmitted through learning and observation from generation to generation. This definition was synthesized from a table created by Baldwin, Faulkner, and Hecht (2008:14).

EFCL

The Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues is the umbrella organization which supports all community leagues through advocacy, securing funding for league operations, and acting as a conduit for information and resources relevant to leagues.

Mission

A mission statement describes your organization's purpose, how you are distinct from other organizations, and who you serve.

Norms of Reciprocity

Norms of reciprocity refers to the idea that people who are the beneficiaries of positive actions will in turn act to bring about other positive actions. On the other hand, people who experience negative actions will in turn act to bring about negative actions.

Placemaking

This is the act of creating public spaces which foster a sense of belonging and well-being. It is also how organizations draw on the strengths, assets, and attitudes of an area to build a strong and vibrant community.

Social Capital

Social capital can be seen as the positive outcome of social relations which bond both similar and diverse groups of people and link people through norms of reciprocity (Dekker and Uslaner, 2001).

Building social capital: how Edmonton's community leagues promote neighbourhood engagement in arts and culture

Vision

This is the overarching goal or direction of an organization. It is where an organization envisions itself to be in the future.

Literature Cited

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