

Elora Centre for the Arts Supportive Arts Program

Evaluation Results

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January 2022



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RESULTS SUMMARY

The Supportive Arts (SA) program is an all-inclusive, all abilities workshop offered by Elora Centre for the Arts (ECFTA) Arts Educators in collaboration with other community organizations.

IMAGEO supported ECFTA in the implementation and analysis of a verbal post-program survey with participants to capture outcomes and lessons around their experiences in the program. Program facilitators also implemented a brief program feedback tool after many of the sessions. This report presents a summary of the post-program survey results and the program feedback tool results.

OVERVIEW

The results of the evaluation suggest that participants enjoyed their time in the program and learned new things along the way. The vast majority of participants looked forward to attending each week and felt like the program was a good place to express their feelings. After sessions, participants often indicated that they felt better and more creative than when they arrived.

Most participants said that they made new friends in the program. Some of their favourite activities were creating art with friends and socializing with friends and instructors. When asked how doing art with others in the program made them feel, the most common responses were happy, good and relaxed.

Many participants said that they learned something new during their time in the program and that they had done something that made them proud. The most common point of pride among participants was making chocolates. This activity was also one of the most memorable among participants, along with creating gifts.

POST-PROGRAM SURVEY

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Participants shared whether they liked or disliked different activities that took place during the program. The most liked activities were:

- Listening
- Feeling art materials
- Dancing

LEARNING SOMETHING NEW

85% of participants said that they learned something new in the program.

DOING ART TOGETHER

95% of participants reported that they enjoyed making art with friends in the program. Participants shared how doing art with others in the program made them feel. The most common feelings were:

- Happy
- Good
- Relaxed

FEELING PROUD

Participants were asked if there was anything that they had done in the program that made them feel proud. 90% of participants said they had done something in the program that made them feel proud, with the most common achievement being making chocolates.

MEMORABLE CREATIONS

Participants shared if there was something they made or a piece of artwork that they particularly remembered. The most common memorable creations were making chocolates and making gifts (Silver Bells). It is worth noting that these were also the two most recent activities.

PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

Participants shared the following about their experience in the program:

- 90% of participants looked forward to coming to the program each week
- 89% felt like the program was a good place to express their feelings
- 85% had made a new friend in the program

PROGRAM FEEDBACK TOOL

A brief activity-specific evaluation was conducted after most sessions. Participants most commonly felt very happy after the following art activities:

1. Night Jungle and Day Jungle (83% of participants felt very happy)
2. Silver Bell on Wood Panel (83%)
3. Easter Cup Bouquet (79%)
4. Squirrel Picnic Table (75%)
5. Whale Art (68%)

Across the sessions, 82 to 100% of participants said that they felt better after the program than when they arrived and 78 to 100% felt more creative. Additionally, 40 to 86% of participants felt very happy after the Mindfulness and Meditation activity depending on the session.

FULL RESULTS

The Supportive Arts (SA) program is an all inclusive, all abilities workshop offered by Elora Centre for the Arts (ECFTA) Arts Educators in collaboration with other community organizations.

As part of the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grow Grant received in support of SA, Georgia Simms of IMAGEO artworks, was hired by ECFTA to develop a framework and tools for program evaluation that would allow ECFTA to:

- Gather feedback to strengthen program delivery
- Measure participant impact
- Understand the degree to which programs are meeting intended outcomes
- Gather insights from the community including educators, facilitators, caregivers, etc.

IMAGEO supported ECFTA in the implementation and analysis of a verbal post-program survey with participants to capture outcomes and lessons around their experiences in the program. Program facilitators also implemented a brief program feedback tool after many of the sessions. This section presents full post-program survey and program feedback tool results.

POST-PROGRAM SURVEY

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Participants shared whether they liked or disliked different activities that took place during the program:

Activity (<i>n</i> = 20)	Like	Dislike	Other*
Listening to music (<i>n</i> = 19)	19	-	-
Feeling art materials	19	1	-
Dancing	19	1	-
Creating art with friends (<i>n</i> = 19)	18	1	-
Socializing/talking with friends and instructors (<i>n</i> = 19)	18	1	-
Eating what you make	18	2	-
Meditations and quiet time	18	2	-
Following instructions	18	2	-
Mixing paint	16	4	-
Building things	16	3	1
Playing instruments and other loud times	16	3	-
Thinking about worries	16	4	-
Doing things the way you want to (<i>n</i> = 19)	16	3	-
Getting messy	10	8	2

Other responses included: “unsure” (3 responses) or “okay” (1 response).

Participants shared if there was anything from this list that they liked doing at the time of surveying, that they didn’t like doing before the program. Responses included:

- Making chocolates (2 mentions)
- Owls
- Doing art (e.g., drawing)

LEARNING SOMETHING NEW

Participants were asked if they felt like they learned something new during their time in the program, or if they stayed the same. 85% felt like they learned something new in the program.

Learnings	n = 20
Learned something new	17
Stayed the same	3

A few participants shared what they had learned:

- Friends
- New art forms

DOING ART TOGETHER

Participants shared how doing art with others in the program made them feel. 16 of 19 respondents shared a positive word or description of how the program made them feel (e.g. happy, good, relaxed); 2 people shared a neutral description (fine, okay); and 1 shared a negative description (sad).



Here are a few quotes shared by participants in response to this question:

- “Very good”
- “Calming”
- “Very relaxing to make things”
- “Better (used to hate art, never took it in school)”

FEELING PROUD

Participants were asked if there was anything that they had done in the program that made them feel proud. 90% of participants (19/21) said they did do something that made them feel proud. A few participants specified their points of pride:

- Making chocolates (3 mentions)
- Canoe paddles
- Human moving painting
- Christmas tree
- Music
- Painting
- Owl
- Squirrel picnic tables

MEMORABLE CREATIONS

Participants shared if there was something they made or a piece of artwork that they really remembered. The most memorable creations included:

- Chocolates (2 mentions)
- Gifts (2 mentions)
- Paintings
- All artwork
- Puzzles
- Drawings
- Silverbell
- Group of Seven inspired activity

PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

Participants shared the following about their experience in the program:

- 90% of participants looked forward to coming to the program each week
- 89% felt like the program was a good place to express their feelings
- 85% had made a new friend in the program

Experience	Yes	No	Maybe
Does this program feel like a good place to express your feelings? (n = 19)	17	2	-
Have you made a new friend in the program? (n = 20)	17	3	-
Do you look forward to coming each week? (n = 21)	19	-	1

FINAL THOUGHTS

Participants shared any final thoughts they had about being a part of the program:

- *"I want to work here."*
- *"I like coming here."*
- *"Art camp; Facebook and Skype friends."*
- *"Celebrating birthdays together."*
- *"I am really looking forward to coming back in the new year."*
- *"Imagine a picture of a character that you were obsessed with."*
- *"Support workers/volunteers, L&L program facilitator."*

PROGRAM FEEDBACK TOOL

Program facilitators implemented a brief program feedback tool after many of the sessions. Participants were presented with the following questions and response options:

Today's Art Project was _____ and it made me feel



Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel



Do you feel **better after** Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning?



Did today's lesson help you to feel more creative?



EASTER CUP BOUQUET

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 24)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 24)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 25)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 25)	
Very happy	19	Very happy	20	Better	24	More creative	24
Okay	5	Okay	4	Same	1	No change	1
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-

WHALE ART

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 28)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 27)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 28)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 28)	
Very happy	19	Very happy	19	Better	28	More creative	27
Okay	9	Okay	8	Same	-	No change	1
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-

POWER WANDS

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 17)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 17)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 19)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 18)	
Very happy	11	Very happy	11	Better	17	More creative	14
Okay	5	Okay	5	Same	2	No change	4
Sad	1	Sad	1	Worse	-	Less creative	-

SQUIRREL PICNIC TABLE

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 8)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 7)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 8)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 8)	
Very happy	6	Very happy	4	Better	8	More creative	8
Okay	2	Okay	3	Same	-	No change	-
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-

OUTDOORS PAINTING (EN PLEIN AIR)

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 6)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 6)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 7)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 7)	
Very happy	3	Very happy	3	Better	7	More creative	7
Okay	3	Okay	3	Same	-	No change	-
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-

COLOURFUL ABSTRACT PAINTING

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 8)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 8)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 9)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 9)	
Very happy	4	Very happy	5	Better	8	More creative	9
Okay	4	Okay	3	Same	1	No change	-
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-

LIVE OWL DRAWING

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 13)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 12)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 13)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 13)	
Very happy	8	Very happy	6	Better	13	More creative	11
Okay	5	Okay	6	Same	-	No change	1
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	1

CANOE PADDLES

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 11)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 10)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 11)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 11)	
Very happy	6	Very happy	4	Better	9	More creative	10
Okay	5	Okay	6	Same	2	No change	1
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-

NIGHT JUNGLE AND DAY JUNGLE

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 6)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 6)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 6)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 6)	
Very happy	5	Very happy	4	Better	5	More creative	6
Okay	1	Okay	2	Same	1	No change	-
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-

SILVER BELL ON WOOD PANEL

Today's art project made me feel... (n = 6)		Today's Mindfulness and Meditation made me feel... (n = 7)		Do you feel better after Supportive Arts than when you arrived this morning? (n = 7)		Did today's lesson help you feel more creative? (n = 7)	
Very happy	5	Very happy	6	Better	7	More creative	7
Okay	1	Okay	1	Same	-	No change	-
Sad	-	Sad	-	Worse	-	Less creative	-