Deaf Spotlight

2022 Professional Development Survey Infographics

Descriptive Text:

At First Glance

This survey does not capture the ENTIRE Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and Hard of Hearing arts community. This is a screenshot of artists who participated in the survey 2022, which is our second year in doing this survey. This data is based on 61 artists’ responses from three countries (Brazil, Canada and United States) capture helps us to compare to the previous year to see if there are trends or changes. We will continue tracking data annually to see the trends and growth in various industries. This will also help us identify areas where gaps are and research on how to resolve those gaps.

While reviewing the 2022 data and comparing to the 2021 data, there are outreach gaps in communities: BIPOC, LGBTQIA, and more. It may signal a lack of support, exposure, and resources for these specific artists which are potential artists to work with and to hire.

Artists in General

The artists in this survey are based in various locations with the majority being located on the west and east coasts, living in an urban setting. This is similar to 2021 data. Most of the artists considered themselves in emerging: in the early stage of their artistic careers. When looking toward 2021 data, new people may have entered the artistic careers in past year and different people filling out the survey. Majority have reported to be in their careers for 20 years or less. This is similar to the last year’s data.]
The majority of the artists have post-secondary training and/or education. Top three artistic disciplines are digital, visual, and mixed media, with many different mediums identified. This is similar to 2021. Majority reported the reasons why they picked that medium is passion and creativity being top two.

A bit more than half of the artists earns less than $40,000 and fall within the age group of 15 to 44, which is similar to 2021 data. Most of the artists are reported as female cisgender. The sexual orientation question showed more LGBTIA+ reported than last year. Most of the artists identify as Deaf with ASL as their primary language. The race and ethnicity increased slightly for BIPOC identities when compared to 2021 data.

A bit more than half of the artists feels discriminated or somewhat discriminated in the hearing arts world. This is still an area to address since there are suggestions on how to address this with education, awareness, and access being the main suggestions.

Top five groups of people that have a huge impact on the artists’ journey pursuing their crafts/careers are friends, community, fans/viewers, parents, and social media followers for 2022. For 2021, the top four groups were peers, parents, teachers, and relatives. Based on this, continued and supportive relationships are essential to help artists develop their skills and creativity during their journey.

Challenges

Challenges that the majority of the artists faced as reported for 2022 are marketing, affordability of studio space, networking/support, financial stability, and how to manage/run their businesses. Most artists reported that to build a sustainable practice, they need community support and they also need money, along with exposure, collaboration, and professional development. This is similar to last year since they reported the need for representation and money. Majority of the artists want training on marketing, pricing (financial aspect so they can get their worth out of
their works), and networking which is similar to last year. Marketing and networking often go together because both involve people/connections.]

[Page 5: Black text against white background. Black circle with white number “4” in lower right corner.

Text:

The majority of the artists reported that they need access to information/communication to be a full participant in the hearing arts world. Access needs can be sign language interpreters, captions, transcripts and childcare. This was also reported last year. More information is needed to understand what access means to different artists due to some reporting deaf signers, visual access to facial cues, and travel accommodations.

If you want to join our future surveys, please send us an email at info@deafspotlight.org and we will include you on the email list serv. Also, if you used our data for your research, grant writing, and/or grants, let us know if this information led to more opportunities for you.

We are grateful to all who filled out the 2022 survey. This data has helped us start compiling a picture of the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and Hard of Hearing art community. Please let us know if we can change how we capture data for the next survey by emailing us at info@deafspotlight.org. We are looking forward to the next year’s data which will be our third year in doing this survey. Thank you for your support!]
d. FL, pink
e. GA, gray
f. LA, orange
g. MA, green
h. MD, yellow
i. MN, orange
j. NM, pink
k. NY, orange
l. OH, yellow
m. OR, yellow
n. PA, pink
o. SC, orange
p. TX, yellow
q. UT, pink
r. VA, gray
s. VT, yellow
t. WA, pink
u. WI, gray

[Page 7: Against gray background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top showing questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “6” in lower right corner.

Top section: “How long have you been a practicing artist?” Five colored outlined circles are listed from the top left to bottom left with black text for years underneath.

- 1-5 years | 25%; yellow
- 6-10 years | 21%; green
- 11-20 years | 16%; orange
- 21-30 years | 28%; blue
- 40+ years | 10%; yellow

Bottom section: “How do you identify yourself in your career?” Three colored outlined circles with different percentages are shown in order from left to right above white boxes with black text:

- Emerging: 53%; green
- Mid-Career: 34%; yellow
- Established: 13%; “orange”

[Page 8: Against white background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top showing questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “7” in lower right corner.

Top section: “What is the highest degree or level of education you have completed?” Six gray boxes with percentage in colored boxes are listed in two columns of threes.

- High School: 11%; yellow
- Trade school: 5%, black
- Bachelor’s Degree: 36%; green
- Master’s Degree (MA, MFA, MS): 36%, gray
- Ph.D. or higher: 2%; orange
- Decline to state: 10%, blue

Bottom section: “Do you have formal education in your artistic discipline (college degree, professional development courses, workshops, certifications, on-the-job training)?” Two circles with percentage as black text in middle above two colored boxes with white text.

- Yes 62%; green
- No 38%; yellow

[Page 9: Against black background, white text used throughout the page. Text on top: “What is your current artistic discipline?” with text and percentage next to colored bars in different sizes. White circle with black number “8” in lower right corner.

   a. Archiving 2%, orange
   b. Art education 3%, yellow
   c. Craft 20%, green
   d. Dance 12%, gray
   e. Digital 36%, orange
   f. Director 3%, yellow
   g. Filmmaking 33%, green
   h. Illustration 3%, gray
   i. Jewelry Making 3%, orange
   j. Lighting Design 3%, yellow
   k. Literary 13%, green
   l. Management 8%, gray
   m. Mixed Media 41%, orange
   n. Music 8%, yellow
   o. Painting 7%, green
   p. Performance 28%, gray
   q. Photography 28%, orange
   r. Poetry 12%, yellow
   s. Pottery/ceramics 3%, green
   t. Producer 3%, gray
   u. Screen printing 2%, orange
   v. Screenwriting/playwriting 2%, yellow
   w. Theatre 25%, green
   x. Tactile 8%, gray
   y. Visual 48%, orange
   z. Woodworking 3%, yellow]

[Page 10: Against white background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top showing questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “9” in lower right corner.
Top section: “Why did you pick this as your current medium?” Colored circles in different sizes with lines pointing to black text and percentage either above or below.

a. Access 44%, orange  
b. Challenges 2%, yellow  
c. Community 3%, blue  
d. Creativity 82%, green  
e. Expression of art 2%, gray  
f. Flexibility 2%, orange  
g. History 2%, yellow  
h. Marketability 21%, green  
i. Passion 97%, blue

Bottom section: “If you had formal education, did you receive any training in financial, marketing, and/or networking?” Two circles with percentage as black text in middle above two colored boxes with white text.

- Yes 83%, orange  
- No 17%, yellow

[Page 11: Against white background, black text: “What is your income level?” gray bars with black text next to colored section with percentage. Black circle with white number “10” in lower right corner.]

a. Under $20,000 36%, green  
b. $20,000-$40,000 18%, orange  
c. $40,000-$60,000 7%, gray  
d. $60,000-$80,000 10%, blue  
e. $80,000 or over 6%, black  
f. Declined to share 23%, yellow

[Page 12: Against white background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top with questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “11” in lower right corner.]

Top section: “How do you identify yourself?” Gray bars with black text next to colored sections with percentage.

- Deaf 80%, green  
- DeafDisabled 10%, yellow  
- DeafBlind 10%, blue  
- Hard of Hearing 20%, orange

Bottom section: “What is your primary Language?” Colored bars in different sizes with black text and percentage.
a. American Sign Language 89%, green
b. Black American Sign Language 7%, yellow
c. Bilingual 16%, orange
d. English (Spoken language) 47%, blue
e. Lingua Brasiliera de Sinais (LIBRAS) 1%, gray
f. ProTactile American Sign Language 1%, green
g. Spanish (Spoken language) 3%, yellow
h. Written English 2%, orange]

[Page 13: Against white background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top with questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “12” in lower right corner.

Top section: “What is your age? Colored circles in different sizes, percentages inside the circles, above black text.

. 18-30 18%, orange
b. 31-45 42%, green
c. 46-60 28%, yellow
d. 61 or older 12%, blue

Bottom section: “What is your gender?” Gray bars with black text next to colored sections with percentage.

. Decline to share 13%, green
b. Female Cisgender 57%, yellow
c. Male Cisgender 15%, orange
d. Nonbinary 10%, blue
e. Transgender 5%, gray]

[Page 14: Against white background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top with questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “13” in lower right corner.

Top section: “What is your sexual orientation?” Colored circles in different sizes with lines pointing to black text and percentage either above or below.

a. Asexual 3%, orange
b. Bisexual 7%, yellow
c. Decline to share 22%, green
d. Demisexual 5%, blue
e. Gay 7%, black
f. Heterosexual 28%, orange
g. Lesbian 3%, yellow
h. Queer 22%, green
i. Pansexual 3%, blue
Bottom section: “How do you define your race and ethnicity?” Gray bars with black text next to colored sections with percentage.
   a. Asian/Asian American 8%, green
   b. Black/African American 10%, yellow
   c. Biracial 5%, green
   d. Hispanic 12%, orange
   e. Latinx 15%, green
   f. Multiracial 10%, orange
   g. Native American / Indigenous American 5%, yellow
   h. Prefer not to specify 7%, blue
   i. South Asian 3%, yellow
   j. Spanish 7%, blue
   k. White 59%, yellow

[Page 15: Against white background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top with questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “14” in lower right corner.

Top section: “Do you live in a rural, suburban, or urban area?” Colored circles in different sizes, percentages inside the circles, above black text.
   - Suburban 47% yellow
   - Urban 41%, blue
   - Rural 12%, green

Bottom section: “Have you felt discriminated from the hearing arts world?” Three circles with percentage as black text in middle above three colored boxes with white text.
   - Yes 43%, orange
   - Somewhat 40%, green
   - No 17%, yellow

[Page 16: Against black background, white text throughout page. Text on top: “Who were your biggest supporters as you developed your artistic skills?” with text and percentage on either side of the colored circles. White circle with black number “15” in lower right corner.

   a. Friends 79%, blue
   b. Community 56%, yellow
   c. Fans / Viewers 48%, green
   d. Parents 43%, orange
   e. Social Media Followers 41%, gray
   f. Peers 39%, blue
   g. Spouse/partner 36%, yellow
   h. Mentors 30%, green
   i. Relatives 28%, orange
   j. Teachers 28%, gray
k. Arts Organization 25%, blue  
l. Consumers 10%, yellow  
m. Art Museum 7%, green  
n. Government organization – 3%, orange  
o. Art Galleries/publications - 2%, gray

[Page 17: Against white background, there are two sections. Each section has black text on top with questions from the survey. Black circle with white number “16” in lower right corner.

Top section: “Have you ever collaborated with other Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, and/or Hard of Hearing artists?” Two circles with percentage as black text in middle above two colored boxes with white text.
- Yes 54%, green  
- No 46%, yellow

Bottom section: “If you are a member of an underrepresented racial group including BIPOC, do you feel welcome in Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and/or Hard of Hearing arts community?” Three circles with percentage as black text in middle above three colored boxes with white text.
- Yes 20%, orange  
- No 17%, gray  
- Not applicable 63%, green

[Page 18: Against white background, black text are used throughout the page, except for on top. On top is a green box with white text: “What challenges do you face as an artist?” Text is next to different sized colored bars with percentage. Black circle with white number “17” in lower right corner.

a. Marketing my work and myself 77%, gray  
b. Access to affordable studio/ practice space 57%, yellow  
c. Networking 57%, blue  
d. Finding support from the art community 53%, orange  
e. Building an audience statewide/ national 51%, green  
f. Business Management of my career 51%, gray  
g. Maintaining focus of my art 51%, yellow  
h. Day to day financial challenges 49%, blue  
i. Access to career development training 48%, orange  
j. Access to specialized tools, equipment, and/or facilities 48%, green  
k. Finding mentors 38%, gray  
l. Finding support outside of the art community 34%, yellow  
m. Building an audience locally 33%, blue  
n. Access to affordable housing 31%, orange  
o. Determining clear career goals 30%, green  
p. Collaboration 2%, gray]
[Page 19: Against a white background, black text is used throughout except on the top. On top, a blue box with white text: Which platform do you use to exhibit/show your work?" There is a blue line separating two columns of text with percentages in colored circles. Black circle with white number “18” in lower right corner.

a. Academic Institution (School) 25%, yellow 
b. Alternative or Non-traditional Arts Space 12%, green 
c. Art Competition 2%, orange 
d. Artist-Run Spaces 18%, gray 
e. Blog 15%, yellow 
f. Collective 2%, green 
g. Convention - Artists' Alley Table 7%, orange 
h. Dedicated Performance Spaces 20%, gray 
i. Documentaries / Films 18%, yellow 
j. Email 23%, green 
k. Galleries 18%, orange 
l. Online Retailer (i.e. Etsy, Society6) 13%, gray 
m. Online Video Platform (i.e. YouTube, Vimeo) 46%, yellow 
n. Open Art Studio 7%, green 
o. Personal Studio 13%, orange 
p. Podcasts/Vodcasts 2%, gray 
q. Publications 13%, yellow 
r. Social Media 75%, green 
s. Submissions to Festivals 30%, orange 
t. Television 5%, gray 
u. Website 38%, yellow 
v. Word of mouth 2%, green]

[Page 20: Against white background, black text on top: "What do you need to build a sustainable practice?" Colored circles with percentage inside above text. Black circle with white number “19” in lower right corner.

a. Community support 64%, blue 
b. Exposure 61%, yellow 
c. Money 61%, green 
d. Collaborators 56%, orange 
e. Professional development 56%, gray 
f. Patrons/ connections 53%, blue 
g. Representation (Gallery/Agency) 53%, yellow 
h. Exhibition 51%, green 
i. Time 51%, orange 
j. Critique dialogue 44%, gray 
k. Studio Space 44%, blue 
l. Childcare/support for families 16%, yellow]
How interested are you in receiving business practice training/resources for artists in the following ways?

- Networking/ Connections 67%, orange
- Pricing your work 58%, yellow
- Art residencies 57%, green
- In-person workshops 57%, gray
- Marketing 57%, orange
- Writing/ artist statement 55%, yellow
- Taxes/ finances 52%, green
- How to write and to understand contracts 50%, gray
- Grant writing/ fundraising 50%, orange
- One on one coaching 48%, yellow
- Critiques 45%, green
- Convenings / conferences 40%, gray
- In person panel discussion 42%, orange
- Short videos 35%, yellow
- Webinars 35%, green
- Multi-day training intensives 33%, gray

What kind of access do you need to be a full participant?

- Captions 87%, blue
- Sign language interpreter 87%, orange
- Real time captioning 51%, green
- Transcripts 30%, gray
- Childcare 12%, yellow