

How do you feel 29 Palms, Yucca Valley or the County could best support the arts?

1. Weekly outdoor artisans faire with low participation fees; had them in BC and were very well attended by both tourists and locals.
2. Expand Art Tours outreach & marketing to increase attendance and media exposure. Have affordable business and marketing oriented classes and programs.
3. The local newspaper should be more inclusive. Would like Art Festivals open to all artists - not juried.
4. Each should have a line item for the arts in the annual budget.
5. Provide support community for artists, support farmer's market, provide gallery space, support art based supply business's, assist building of art studios free of property tax.
6. Advertising. Shows at public venues, etc.
7. Get non-profits together and promote 2 or 3 arts festivals and take a %, rather than ask artists to give art away for these pathetic auctions. The non-profits don't work hard enough to promote the auctions because they have nothing invested in the art and treat all of it as a gift they deserve because they represent a good cause, no one is representing the artists.
8. The museum in Yucca Valley is very good, but another art gallery would also help. Advertising in Orange County, LA County and San Diego County etc. would help the local businesses and raise the Town's revenue in the long run. Expanding on the events listed on the Town's website, that of the Chamber of Commerce as well as that of J.T. National Park would bring attention to this area's large and wonderful art community. It has a lot to offer, but the word has to get out. By doing so the whole area would benefit tremendously financially.
9. Wonder Valley could use the WV Community Center as a space for classes, workshops and possibly gallery space for local WV Artists. We also need more galleries and public art spaces in both 29 and WV and less political control of art shows and contests. Bring in more tourists, stop focusing retail on military needs.
10. Keeping the area undeveloped would help. Less fast food and no more hotels. The more wide open and beautiful our desert is the more people will want to visit and purchase art.

11. Public Arts programs are an excellent way. Recognizing and respecting the value that artists and the arts add is key.

12. The murals project in 29 was a failure.

13. Promoting events and create an ART DISTRICT, a place, big, where artists can rent a space and sell their art.

14. Buy more art instead of relying on donations, commissions, and/or "featuring" artists in which the artist supplies the show w/o any reimbursement. The ultimate way to support and encourage artists is to buy their work. Perhaps the CofC could offer and advertise a juried high quality art show during the high season.

15. The county should be more supportive of the arts in our local community, and spend less energy trying to ruin our communities with corporate "big box" businesses, that take away from the local color that exists here and draws visitors from afar. People travel here to get away from that, and the county should realize that supporting the arts and the environment will bring them more tax dollars than stores that sell Chinese junk and unhealthy food.

16. A good art supply store would be great. I suppose they could help advertise our shows in the lower desert and in LA.

17. Advertise

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20. By underwriting venues; by having up-to-date art driven conversations with artists, and not driven by community agendas; in 29 Palms case, by updating their entire image. Yucca Valley has virtually no art presence and seems to fight it like they fight the Museum. The only viable art entities are JTAG (artist supported and paid for) and Red Arrow, privately owned. MBCAC still lacks financial credibility by lack of disclosure and the artists still have to pay for everything. There is very little sorting of crafty art tour destinations and authentic art.

21. Various fund raisers still are operating on the old model called, "give it for free" and your work will be promoted. It doesn't work that way.

22. Don't know how 'best to support the arts', however, an idea: Promote (year round) open studios in the area to the residents and visitors in the Coachella Valley to enhance our reputation as an 'accessible artist' destination. Putting together an open studios guide for visitors that could be distributed down below would be great! All the artists here are not as reclusive as you might think ...
23. Subsidized studio spaces, visiting artists programs and residencies.
24. Create events, support the art tours financially, "art in public places", etc.
25. If there was advertizing to promote the diverse Arts in the area, beyond the local boundaries. Create local arts programs for the community.
26. Support the annual open studios tour and commission public art
27. More opportunity (and venues) for literary events, poetry readings, retail book stores/sales, promotion for local writers, poets, and authors of local history/fiction/photography small press books etc.
28. A supportive atmosphere is the most important. One should not always have to explain or plead the importance of the arts in any community - in terms of welfare and well being of residents or in terms of the business benefits of art for residents and tourists alike
29. LET THE ARTISTS LIVE FREELY AND HAVE ART ON THE STREETS LIKE A STREET FAIR ANY TME NEEDED. THE WORLD WOULD BE WAY MORE INSPIRED AND ADD ORGANIC PRODUCE AND THEN EDUCATE IN PUBLIC ON THE STREETS IN BOOTHS SIMILAR TO A STREET FAIR ATMOSPHERE.
30. Create % for art development fees to support art programs. By acknowledging that we exist and do more than just sell our products here. We live here, have homes here, purchase needed everyday items. A bit more support from the City Council would be appreciated.
31. 29 Palms could focus on creating an arts and entertainment area of the downtown.
32. Provide for Public Art in all new commercial development. Support the Art In Public Places program. Include publicity of art, art exhibits and artists in all promotional materials that encourage tourism. Strengthen the identity of the Morongo Basin as an art center and destination for cultural tourism.
33. Arts directory, and an arts support center to field arts questions and problems.
34. Don't cut funding for the arts. Or, if already cut, re-instate it.

35. The Chamber email newsletter should contain images and be interesting to read like the MBCAC weekly email newsletter. Inspiring colors and images are golden in our virtual reality driven society, so give them candy to see and they will want to come to eat the candy we offer. More public art! Connect our history, culture and arts to visitors, community and newcomers. Create a welcoming committee to tour Marine newcomers around to all the hotspots of the basin: galleries, art class studios, Integratron, HDTS Headquarters, the Park & its headquarters, theatres, and all family oriented entertainment hotspots and create an exciting brochure to dazzle these culturally starved Marine families to let them know they are not alone in this desolate appearing desert, that we are in fact an Oasis of people not just a few palm trees :)))) The websites of the Chamber and City are crucial in getting folks excited about our towns, without an exciting website you will be left in the dust. As a smart phone user (along with 65% of the population) we rely on these smarts to get us where we want to go and if it is not virtually interesting, then why would I want to go there for real! Color, pictures, culture, history and arts are vibrant important hooks to lure visitors in with but the websites that exist now fail to lure any creative mindful traveler.

36. 29 Palms needs to create an identity, just as Joshua Tree has done. People are still confused when they come to town, as to: "What do people do here?" Ideas of creating an artistic marque that ties to the pioneering history of 29 Palms, like the Homesteaders that visitors are absolutely fascinated by the Homesteads. Such ideas I have heard are to place a homestead at 4 corners that serves as a central tourist information booth, and execute it in an artistic way. Or the property that was suppose to be the new Walgreens (bottom east side of Donnell Hill) be turned into a tourist bus and car info booth with murals, artistic play park, lots of restrooms, something artistically attractive so folks coming through town want to stop and see what we are all about. In regards to websites, where I just wrote a long letter to Jodi of the Chamber of the importance of looking attractive and artistic in virtual reality, so people will want to come here in reality. Right now both websites for City and Chamber offer little inspiration for the artistically minded traveler, and with smart phones taking over the world, websites are golden necessities. Create a website or page on the City and Chamber sites for newcomers (like Marine families) to connect them to arts and culture, like the MBCAC weekly email newsletter. Most importantly, marine families come from other states and countries that have art in schools, and they are so sad to come to CA and find so little art in our schools, so connecting them to the 29 Palms Creative Center and 29 Palms Art Gallery and other places where art classes are offered for children as well as adults is vital to making these newcomers feel like they moved to some place with interest, not an uninspiring vortex. So dazzle those websites because they are government institutionalized boredom to anybody with an imagination or excitement for life! Color is everything and teal is not exciting. Check out this website that talks about the emotional impact of color: <http://www.colormatters.com/>

37. Although I believe strongly in direct government support of the arts by individual artist grants, I recognize that local governments aren't in a position to offer much financial support. So I think that the best thing local government can do is to make sure the area remains attractive to artists by prohibiting inappropriate and ugly development

and by encouraging the types of businesses and institutions that would be attractive to artists. Most artists I know do not want this area to be a haven for chain stores, shopping malls, housing tracts, casinos, etc. Any more sprawl and ugliness will cause me to leave the area and will not attract other artists.

38. Continue to embrace the artistic nature of our communities. I have gotten emails from Marine wives moving to 29 who are incredibly relieved to hear that we are so diverse!

39. I feel that the Morongo Basin does a very good job of supporting the arts considering the low economic base of the area.

40. Invest marketing dollars in promoting the basin as an arts and culture destination.

41. Maybe more seminars or meet-and-greets for everyone, including "outsiders" who don't have connections here.

42. Open non-profit exhibition spaces and cultural centers offering classes and lectures, presentations; support artists-in-residence spaces; present traveling exhibitions of international artists; support an arts festival (high level, contemporary arts); perhaps an international film festival.... or a conference on the arts.....?

43. Doing some more art fairs also having some art classes

44. I think they are doing a great job now.

45. ART PROGRAMS MUST BE PUT BACK INTO THE SCHOOLS. More low cost programs for adults.

46. Continuing the local promotion

47. An annual art festival

48. I am not involved enough to determine new directions.

49. By displaying their works in public buildings, supporting the Morongo Basin's arts organizations financially and with cooperative advertising. Many artists just need exposure beyond the local events. Advertising, even in the local newspapers, is money that many artists cannot spend.

50. By not eliminating arts funding completely, e.g. YV. The community at large seems to support the arts whole heartedly, the local and county government obviously doesn't.

51. Assistance in getting licenses and related business information
52. Put on shows and sales. Buy art for public places. Use artists as consultants in designing buildings, landscaping and other visual displays.
53. Support the open studio tours
54. I would like to have my studio be on a list of places to visit in the area which would be available in publications, Chambers, JTNP visitor centers...I live in my studio/gallery in an open beautiful desert location that would be attractive to tourists
55. 1.) Promote art and artists on a regional basis. 2.) Foster and promote existing low impact / sustainable recreation opportunities compatible with art tourism (i.e., national park tourism, photography, bird watching, wild flower viewing, hiking, points of historical interest).
56. I think they are trying, especially 29 and JT.
57. Educate those serving on public arts orgs, and committees.
58. Stop competing with local galleries! Why do artists have to compete with a tax-supported gallery?
59. Waste of time and energy as most of the Art is shit and most of the artists are horses asses.
60. Zone for and encourage development of Live-work spaces as creative reuse of existing buildings or new "green" development. Establish common studios that could be used by artists who like myself don't have enough room to work at home without disrupting other functions.
61. 29 Palms already supports it well, but there is a need for "young blood" and a divergence from the sort of "conventional" kind of art/mediums that seem to be showcased the most.
62. Provide more stores with art supplies. I do like donation creation but the supplies are not reliably there. Big Lots believe it or not has pre-fab canvases at a good price. Also, maybe a show for new or unknown artists would be fun. I'm too uncomfortable allowing people in my home for the art tours and have no mechanism other than cash or pay pal to sell works.
63. Bring in more tourists, stop focusing retail on military needs