CULTURE + COMMUNITY IN A TIME OF TRANSFORMATION

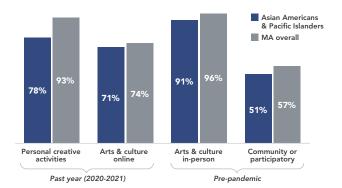
Focus on Massachusetts: **Asian American and Pacific Islander**

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 2022

This summary highlights findings from 463 Asian American and Pacific Islander participants in a survey of more than 8,000 people across Massachusetts. It can inform the work of artists, arts organizations, funders, policymakers, arts advocates, and others interested in more deeply connecting arts & culture to the needs and hopes of Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

Arts & culture organizations are vital to Asians and Pacific Islanders in the Commonwealth. Almost three-quarters (73%) rated arts & culture organizations as highly important. This number is significantly above the state as a whole (65%).

However, Asians and Pacific Islanders are somewhat less active in arts & culture activities than the state as a whole. Research shows that 78% of Asians and Pacific Islanders participated in personal creative activities during the pandemic, compared with 93% of state residents overall. Online engagement with arts & culture involved 71% of Asians and Pacific Islanders, compared with 74% for the state. Similarly, participation among Asians and Pacific Islanders was slightly lower than the state as a whole for pre-pandemic activities such as in-person visitation or attendance (91% vs. 96% for the state) and for community or participatory arts activities (51% vs. 57%).

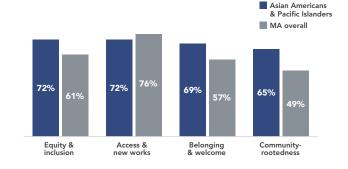


In the future, very few Asians and Pacific Islanders expect to prefer online engagement over in-person offerings. Just 5% of Asians and Pacific Islanders expect to usually or always prefer online arts & culture activities when in-person options are readily available. That's about half the rate for the state as a whole (9%).

Most Asians and Pacific Islanders want to see their culture or heritage reflected in venues and experiences.

Asians and Pacific Islanders are more than twice as likely as state residents overall to believe it's important to have a local arts & culture venue that is reflective of their identity (76% vs. 35%). Among all state residents engaging in arts & culture online, Asians and Pacific Islanders were particularly likely to value online activities that reflect their culture or heritage (58% vs. 33%).

Almost all Asians and Pacific Islanders (96%) hope to see arts & culture organizations change to be better for them in the future. Asians and Pacific Islanders would like to see organizations change in four primary ways: greater equity and inclusion (72% vs. 61% for Massachusetts overall), easier access and more new works (72% vs. 76%), deepening belonging and welcome (69% vs. 57%), and more extensive community rootedness (65% vs. 49%).





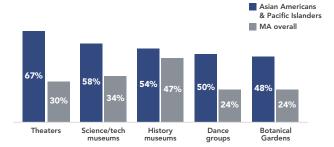




Virtually all Asians and Pacific Islanders (99%) want to see arts & culture organizations address social issues. Systemic racial injustice is the issue most cited. Asians and Pacific Islanders are much more likely than residents of the state overall to want to see arts & culture organizations address systemic racial injustice (75% vs. 46%) and income inequality (52% vs. 37%). The gap in magnitude is smaller for the third most-cited issue, climate change (39% vs. 35%).

Asians and Pacific Islanders are somewhat more likely than the state as a whole to believe systemic racism is present in arts & culture organizations. On average, 40% of Asians and Pacific Islanders believe there's systemic racism in the sector (vs. 32% for the state overall). Ratings of systemic racism by this group are especially high for theaters (67%), science and technology museums (58%), history museums (54%), dance groups (50%), and botanical gardens (48%).





LEARN MORE

Access the full report, *Culture + Community in a Time of Transformation: Focus on Massachusetts*, published December 2021, as well as findings specific to multiple Massachusetts regions and population groups, national results, and regional briefing recordings at **bit.ly/CCTTBarr**.

Photo credits. Front: Artist Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya, photo by Ashley Yung for Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC). Above: Angkor Dance Troupe. Below (clockwise from top left): Artist Stephanie Pan, photo by Mel Taing for BCNC. Image courtesy of Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts (SEACMA). Dancer Naoko Brown, photo by LeeDaniel Tran for BCNC. Photo by Mohan Sunuwar for SEACMA. Image courtesy of SEACMA.









