

ART 4 THE CITY

lack of art programs in low-income communities

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Intro

The problem in my community that I'm addressing is the lack of art programs. This is a problem because people mainly kids would no longer have a way to express themselves, this affects people in a negative manner because they feel ignored and if they aren't able to verbally express how they are feeling or what they are going through. The background of this problem comes from the funding rather it's a lack of money or people in charge aren't putting money towards art. The people affected by this problem are kids mainly in elementary to middle school because they don't have an outlet anymore with the lack of art. There are numerous organizations in Cleveland to help with this problem such as "Newbridge Cleveland Center for Art and Technology" along with the "Art House Inc". These organizations that we worked with offered different types of art programs ranging from ceramic to photography and everything in between. They also provide meals when kids come to the organizations.

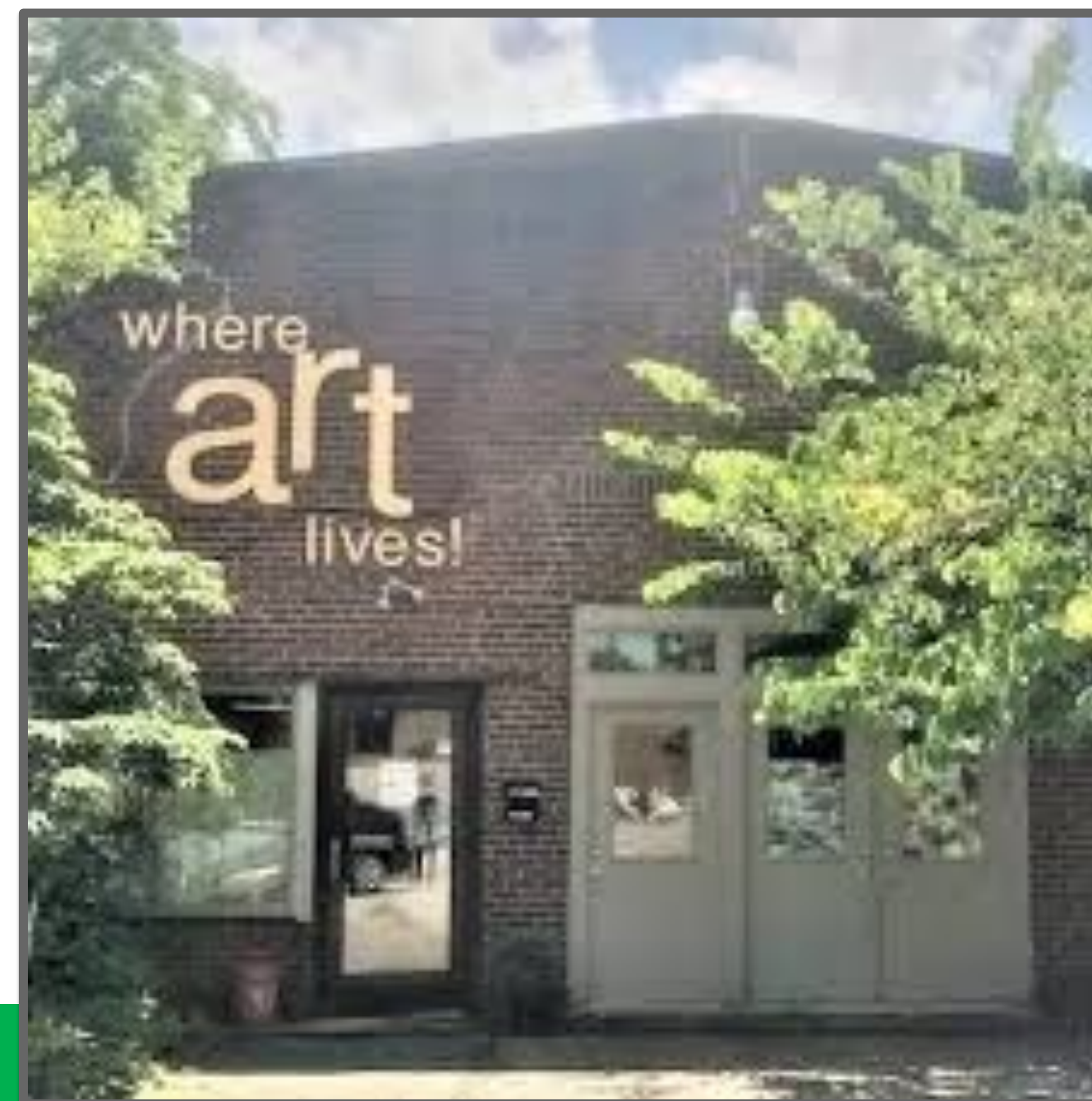
Quick Facts

The Social Impact of the Arts Project did a two year study that discovered that the relative higher presence of cultural resources in lower-income neighborhoods is linked with several health, safety, and education benefits.

- ❖ 14% decrease in indicted investigations of child abuse and neglect
- ❖ 18% decrease in felony crime rates
- ❖ 17-18% increase in the number of students scoring at the highest level on standardized tests.

Survey

The survey was a good choice in helping us answer our research question because we were able to find out how many people were in art programs and the majority age of people that we surveyed who are in art programs in and around the city. We wanted to find out the types of experiences people had, the thoughts people have, and what people do depending upon their environments and thoughts not directly related to art. Original we had hoped to ask our survey questions to several highschool students, a few middle school students, college students, and adults who have finished their education. However, we were only able to ask our survey questions to a few highschool students and several college students. We found out our demographic of participants through the first question on our survey which asked what age group they belonged to as well as whether or not they come/came from a low income community. We didn't ask any open ended questions although we did provide the option for people to write an answer if they felt that none of the choices suited their answer to the question. Some questions we asked were. Have you participated in an art program? Do you believe art has a positive or negative health impact? Which of the following has benefitted you in anyway?



Observation

We did an observation at NewBridge to see what kind of programs they offered as well as ask some of their teachers and students at this art center what they thought and other questions. We were able to observe the students doing ceramics and painting. Our observation took about an hour to an hour and a half. A common topic that appeared was how accepting people are in terms of LGBTQ+ and everybody.

Main References

Newbridge Cleveland Center for Arts & Technology - Community based social emotional arts-infused after-school education program
Art House Inc- Stabilizes the neighborhood and creates opportunities for artists to thrive