



About CAEC and You

2025-2026

Member & Organizational Surveys

During the 2025-2026 season
we invited our members to fill in two distinct surveys:
A Google Survey to collect statistical data that highlights
the work and reach of our member organizations,
and
A SurveyMonkey Survey to understand the
value of CAEC membership for individuals.



Cleveland Classical Guitar Society Students' Pre-CMSD Program Performance 5-28-25



Dear Cleveland Arts Education Consortium members:

Thank you for participating in CAEC's professional development sessions, and most importantly, understanding and sharing the importance of arts education and learning across all ages along with detailed information about your organizations' programs and work, and your views about CAEC and our member network in surveys like the

2025 & 2026 Surveys

highlighted in this report.

Judith Ryder

Cleveland Arts Education Consortium



Belonging & Inclusion Session at LGBT Center of Greater Cleveland, 3-31-26

About CAEC Member Organizations

2025 Google Form Survey Findings

Did you know that

CAEC's 100+ Member Organizations

collectively serve over 7 million people annually
with over 3,000 Education Staff and Teaching Artists
and spend more than \$45 Million on Arts Education?



CAEC's November 2025 Funding Program at Midtown Collaboration Center

Additionally —

73% reported serving Collegiate Students, Adults and/or Senior Adults

88% reported serving K-12 Students

85% reported serving CMSD Schools and Students (actual % may be somewhat higher)

78% reported presenting arts learning programs in multiple locations (schools, own facilities)

Organizations reported serving anywhere from 1 to well over 150 schools annually.

Survey takers also reported collectively serving 767 Schools beyond the CMSD Schools.

Beyond serving CMSD Schools, the largest number of members' organizations reported serving schools in Cleveland Heights/University Heights, Akron, Shaker Heights, Lorain, Warrensville Heights, Beachwood, Bedford, South Euclid/Lyndhurst, Euclid, and Maple Heights.

% of Member organizations 2024 & 2025 serve students in the following grades:

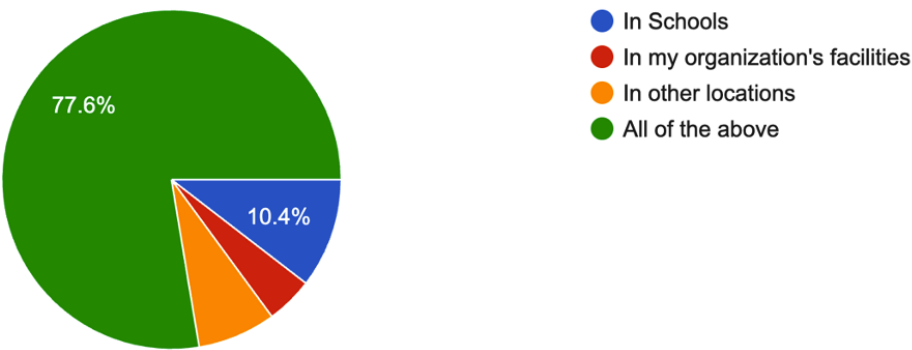
49% Pre-K - Grade 2

57% Grades 3-5

63% Grades 6-8

46% Grades 9-12

Programs take place in members’ facilities, schools and other locations:



In Schools 10.4% In my Org’s facilities 4.5% In other locations 7.5% All of the above 77.6%

Organizational programs in CMSD Schools take place:

6%	Before School
67%	During the School Day
46%	After School
22%	Report they are not in CMSD

Organizations also report generally serving the following groups:

85%	PreK-Grade 12 Students
57%	Collegiate Students
69%	Adults and Senior Adults
66%	Multiple Groups



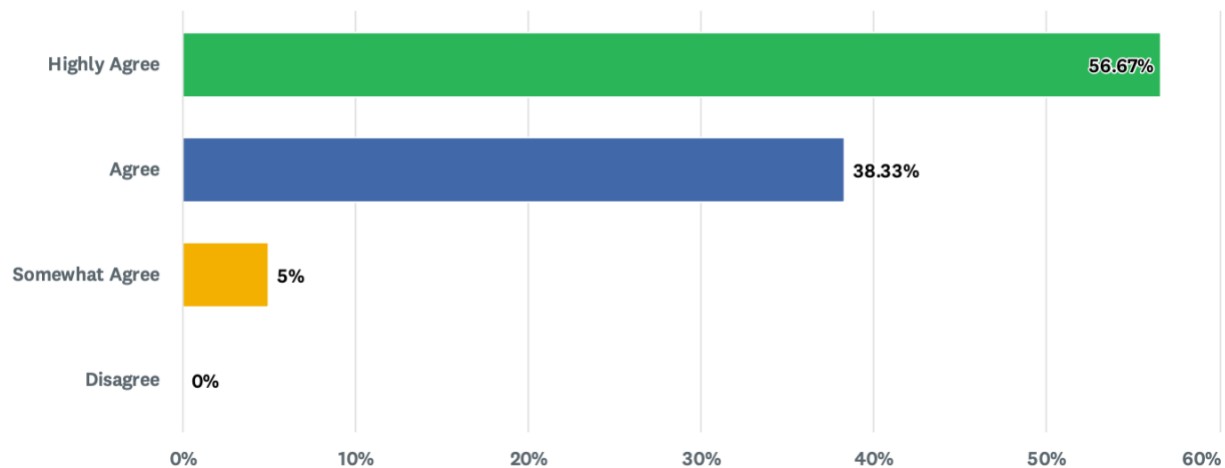
CAEC's 2025 Annual CMSD Update Program
CMA Community Center at Pivot Center

The Value of CAEC Membership

2026 SurveyMonkey Findings

What did we learn from our members?

Cleveland Arts Education Consortium (CAEC) is a valuable service organization for community arts education providers and organizations.



COMMENTS:

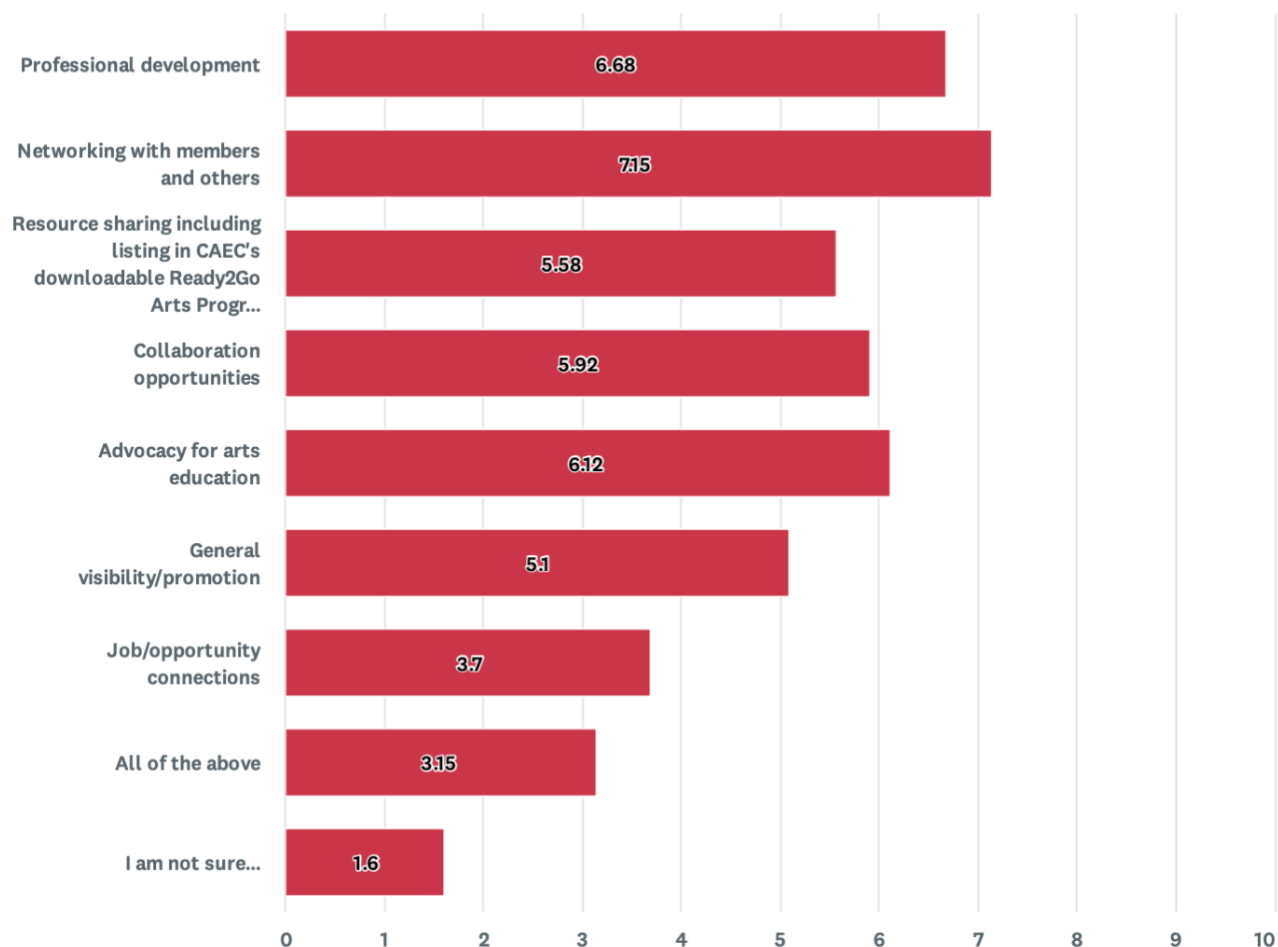
- Thanks for what you do!

- I enjoy being able to exchange ideas and discuss challenges in the educational arts field with colleagues. Even just the quick chat with someone I see at a meeting is helpful in reminding me I'm not alone on this voyage.

- As many networking opportunities disappeared during and after Covid, CAEC is more important than ever.

We asked our members to

Please rank the 7 listed Cleveland Arts Education Consortium (CAEC) opportunities and services below that are most valuable for you at this time. Thank you.

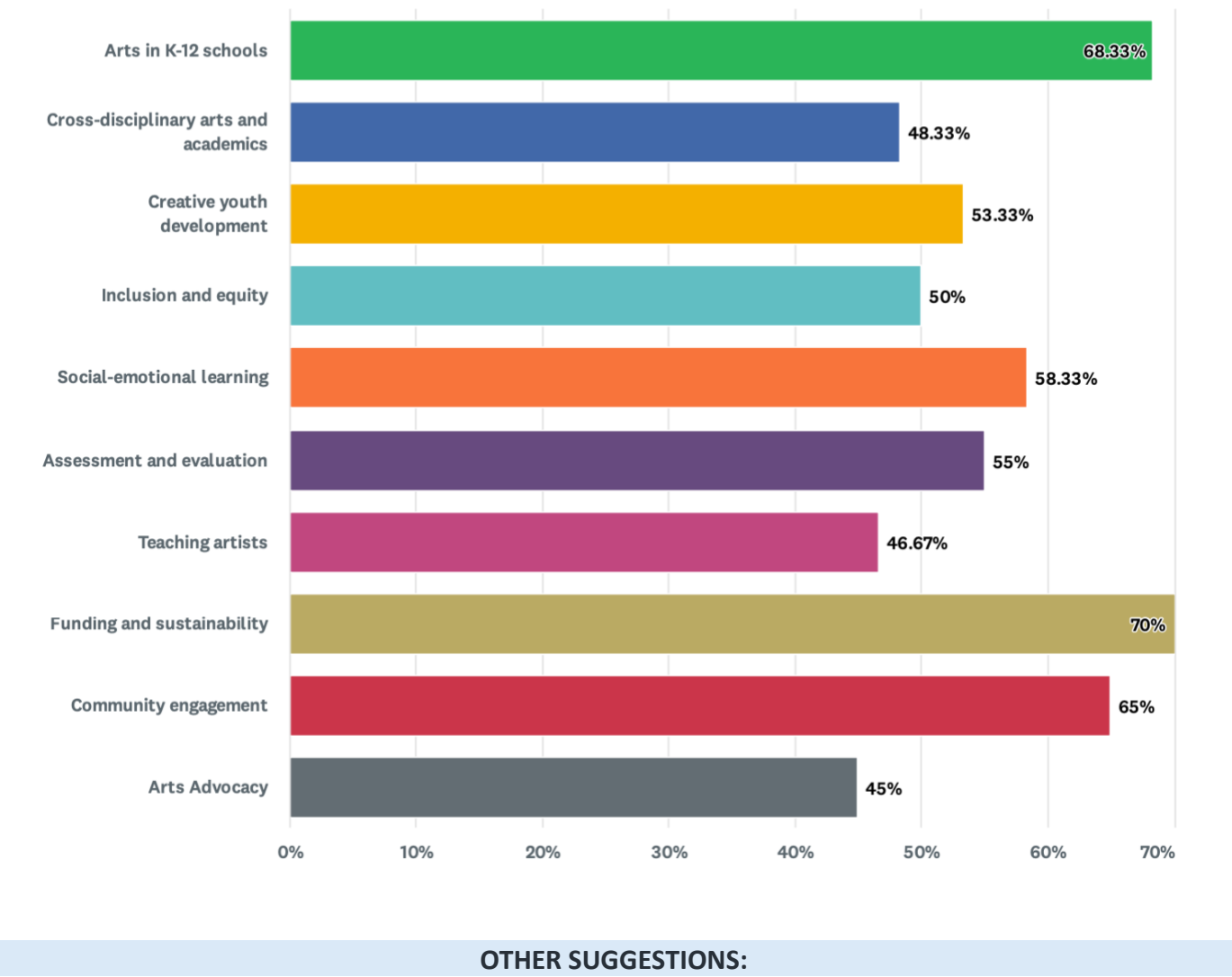


OTHER SUGGESTIONS:

- Conversations specific to community arts organizations that serve youth.
- Strategies to engage families and scholars to support and embrace the arts in everyday life.
- Information about outreach to CMSD and the greater Cleveland community is helpful.
- We are sort of on the fringes of the arts (in the sense that we don't necessarily do arts education always), but often find the general sessions about classroom techniques or grant-seeking or CMSD inside info helpful for our purposes.

We asked our members

Which topics and focuses are or can be useful for you at this time. Choose all that apply, thank you.



- Working with those with disabilities.
- I chose top 3 at the moment, but all are useful.
- CMSD.

We asked what gaps our members currently see in arts education professional learning or networking in our region?

THEIR SUGGESTIONS POINT TO THE ONGOING NEED TO NETWORK, CONNECT AND COLLABORATE MORE FULLY. FOR EXAMPLE:

- Stronger networking opportunities that connect teaching artists, educators, arts organizations, and youth development professionals to share resources, build partnerships, and support arts programming that reflects and celebrates the diverse cultures and communities of Northeast Ohio.
- More opportunities for organizations to sit down and network with one another for extended periods of time.
- More spaces for professionals to get to know each other! Structured networking, so to speak.
- Centralization of resources.
- Reporting.

FUNDING NEEDS & SUGGESTIONS:

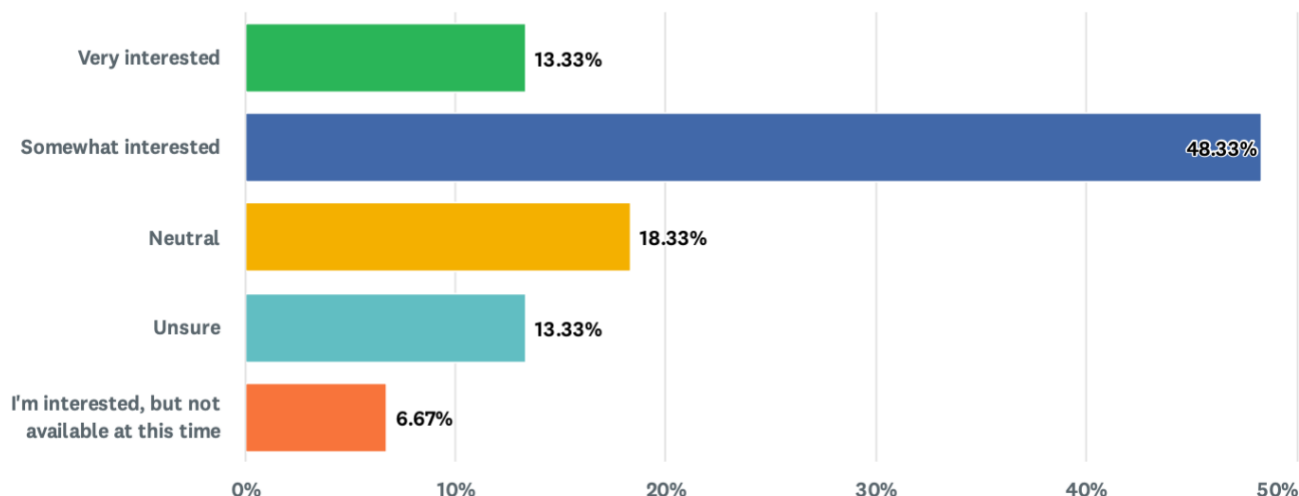
- Funding to hire people.
- Funding for professional development and program expansion.
- The lack of funding in the schools versus the need for arts education programming.
- Funding for after-school programs for inner city schools; awareness about the programs offered.
- Opportunities for people who are new to field finding cheaper options that encourage collaboration and professional development.

TRAINING NEEDS & SUGGESTIONS:

- A lot of the time the professional learning and/or networking either focuses on the education side or the arts side, and it doesn't always weave together.
- Assistance in learning to write lesson plans.
- We need more active training for new teaching artists. Readily available teaching artist training.
- We don't have a lot of learning/training available around the data/technology - that could be interesting.
- More professional learning opportunities focused on culturally responsive teaching, community-centered arts practices, and equitable access to arts education, and stronger networking opportunities that connect teaching artists, educators, arts organizations, and youth development professionals to share resources, build partnerships, and support arts programming that reflects and celebrates the diverse cultures and communities of Northeast Ohio.
- Supporting professional artists (especially dancers) to become teaching artists, through training and professional development.
- Networking as a teaching artist to connect with organizations that hire teaching artists.
- Developing artists who are interested into teaching artists and a central database of teaching artists.
- Arts education geared towards ADHD.
- Opportunities for Adults and Seniors.

We asked

How interested would you be in a CAEC model where members play a larger role in leading and shaping professional development learning opportunities?



LARGER ROLE FOR MEMBERS:

- This is a great idea, but capacity is limited.
- I think we can learn a lot from our colleagues here in Cleveland who are facing the same challenges especially in the CMSD system.
- I'm interested, but the coordination and funding of such a model seems like it would be challenging.
- Organizations may be reluctant to share their intellectual property, expertise and connections.

VALUE OF LEADING A SESSION:

- I am interested in leading a session (or someone else from our EDU team leading a session), but availability will depend heavily on time of year and other projects and obligations.
- I think my organization would have something to offer in the way of professional development for teaching artist training.

PARTICIPATION AND PAYMENT FOR SERVICE:

- It would depend on the time of year and our capacity.
- Clarifying stipend/payment would go to my organization for planning time and material costs if applicable. I would also need some lead time to create. Probably later in the school year would be better.
- I do not feel that I am the right member for this - as a development professional, I am tangential to this. someone else at my organization would be the better fit.
- I don't have arts education expertise but if I hired someone who does I would be happy to have them participate and I wouldn't expect payment. I think recognition and visibility is enough.

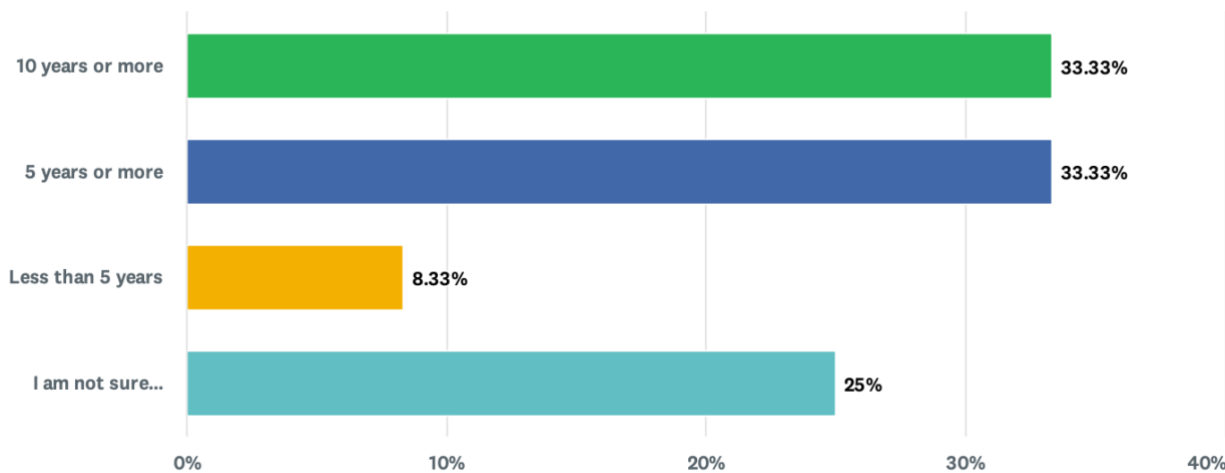
We asked our members to

Please rank the importance of the following 7 CAEC service offerings for you in the future. Thank you.



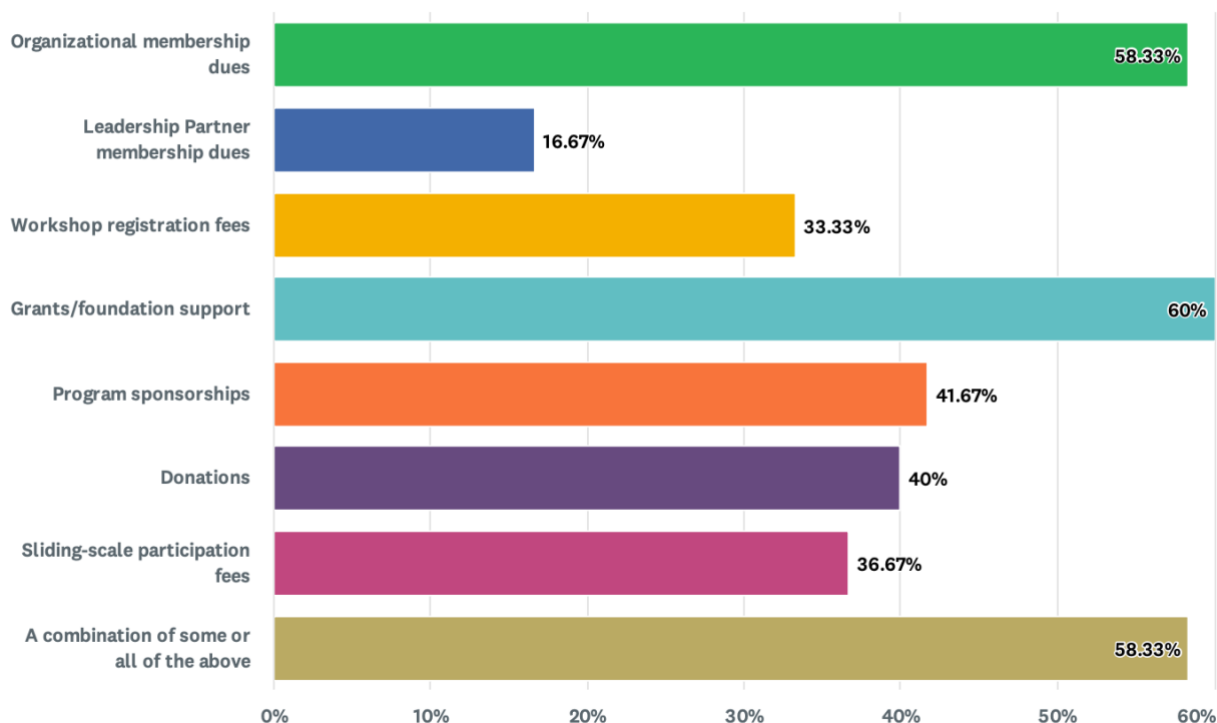
Highest Ranking CAEC Services in the Future:
Networking and community building, Advocacy for arts education,
Professional learning, Resource sharing

Members said
My organization has been a CAEC member for (approximately)



We asked

Which funding approaches feel most appropriate to support CAEC's future work?
Choose all that apply, thank you.



OTHER SUGGESTIONS:

- CAEC should continue to seek out a variety of funding sources, focusing on those listed above.
- All of these seem totally reasonable considering the value.
- Concerns if CAEC goes to local funders who also fund the orgs in the CAEC - especially if it could hurt the organizations providing services directly. CAEC: *Funders understand the differences.*
- Maybe there could be multiple levels of membership if there were something orgs wanted access to like a list of teaching artists or something like that.

Additional Member Comments & CAEC Responses:

I appreciate what you do! CAEC: *Thank you. We are grateful for all you, our members, do.*

I'm new to my org and Cleveland so I haven't engaged with the organization much yet so a welcome guide could be helpful to get a better understanding of what is already offered.

CAEC: *Good idea.*

Is CAEC growing and strengthening the area's approach to arts education?

CAEC: *We hope so. It is our mission.*