

HOW CAN CREATIVES IN
DURHAM CONNECT MORE
INTENTIONALLY?

Presented by

OPEN.space & **BOI-1DA**

TOWN HALL: DURHAM YOUTH + CREATIVES

FINDINGS + NEXT STEPS

Bringing the community together to
discuss the future of Durham's
creative scene.

THURSDAY • MAY 30 • G CENTRE • AJAX

**WE BROUGHT TOGETHER 60
OF DURHAM'S YOUTH,
CREATIVES & COMMUNITY
LEADERS ON THURS. MAY
30TH, 2019.**

WE ASKED 3 QUESTIONS:

What can we do to
create opportunity for
youth in Durham
through the arts?

What kind of spaces
do creatives and
artists need in the
region?

How can creatives in
Durham connect
more intentionally?



HERE'S WHAT THE COMMUNITY SAID...

Q1: WHAT CAN WE DO TO CREATE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH IN DURHAM THROUGH THE ARTS?

- Find an accessible central location for meet-ups, collaborations and events;
- Offer affordable co-working or collaboration spaces for meetings or projects;
- Involve or provide mentors in the area to guide special projects;
- Provide access to modern technology and resources;
- Business plan workshops;
- Concert halls, galleries and opportunities to advertise work and make work more available for purchase;
- A platform that highlights artists and creatives in the area;
- A database of creatives, artists or suppliers in the area;
- Create connections with the DDSB;
- Provide access to resources that will help youth discover their career paths;
- Affordable OPEN.space van or shuttle e.g. Loonie Rides;
- Create awareness of creative funding - Grants or loans;
- Representatives that visit high schools;
- Volunteer / interns / OPEN.ambassador opportunities.

Q2: WHAT KINDS OF SPACES DO CREATIVES + ARTISTS NEED IN THE REGION?

- Consistent and affordable co-working spaces that are open past 10pm;
- Accessible by intermittent Durham transit;
- Places to showcase work - Galleries, small event spaces, photo studios, green screens;
- Recording studios with access to equipment and training;
- Educational spaces for artist marketing, social media, digital marketing training;
- High end computers for video editing and/or computer labs;
- Cultural market places and pop-up shops;
- Social networking forums;
- Language meet-ups to connect with others who speak the same language or to learn new ones;
- Video game clubs;
- Connecting with athletic leagues;
- Space for culinary, hairstyling, art, yoga, skincare or therapy programs and workshops;
- Provide a space that feels like home - Offer food, open late, safe, accessible;
- Space for 1:1 counselling, mentorship or advice;
- Workshops – bimonthly / biweekly meet-ups (How to run a business, financial literacy).



Q3: HOW CAN CREATIVES IN DURHAM CONNECT MORE INTENTIONALLY?

- Meet-ups among people with common interests or challenges;
- Regular meet-ups for youth leaders in the area to discuss challenges, opportunities, resources;
- Mentorship meet-ups by mutual friends;
- Knowledge sharing opportunities;
- Online collaboration hub or app that can connect with other creatives in the area;
- Support of community work through ticket sales and attendance;
- Dinner parties and/or social events each month.

WHAT NOW?

- We'll use these findings to further develop our programming and events in a way that aligns with the needs of our community.
- We'll use this information as a platform to advocate for specific grants and funding for OPEN.space and related collaborations and events.
- We'll seek out community partners who align with these identified objectives as we move into the next phase of development.

TOWN HALL VIEWS



**THANK YOU TO
OUR PARTNERS
&
SUPPORTERS**

WATR**VISION**

