

An abstract artwork featuring a collage of translucent, overlapping geometric shapes in various colors including red, pink, green, blue, and yellow. A hand is visible on the right side, interacting with the composition. The background is a mix of these colors and textures, creating a vibrant and layered visual effect.

Clyfford Still, Art, and the Young Mind

Summative Evaluation Report

trainer
EVALUATION


An abstract collage background featuring various elements: a pink and red mesh-like texture in the top left; a green and blue geometric pattern in the top center; a blue and white textured area in the top right; a hand holding a yellow and orange geometric shape in the middle right; and a crinkled gold foil texture in the bottom right.

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Summative Evaluation Report

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Outcomes

Summative Evaluation Report

Big Finding #1



The evaluation demonstrated that not only do caregivers support the learning of children, as is often seen in informal learning environments, like museums, but that children also scaffold adult learning.

This finding flips the traditional narrative on its head and recognizes that children are not only co-learners, but co-teachers. Conversely, **adults are not only co-teachers but co-learners.**

See pages 8-24, 38-40, 46 & 51-57 for data

“ That changed for me a lot, because at least sometimes I don't know how to think about a painting. So especially when you think of a kid's perspective on it that can kind of lead in the same direction as the kid, or maybe taking the complete opposite direction. Just say hey, well they thought of it this way, but I'm thinking about kind of more like, maybe more literal, or just a completely different light. So, I like that. INTERVIEW 4

Big Finding #2



The **new features added to the gallery for this exhibition**, which in part included art protector graphics on the floor, behind-the-scenes-look at the curatorial process, children's perspectives, graphic icons to introduce themes to pre-readers, non-traditional seating (i.e., carpet squares), and paintings hung lower on the walls – **enhanced the experience of all visitors** – not just that of adults visiting with children.

See pages 43, 45, 46, 60 & 62 for data

“ This is a different way of thinking about it, and I'm glad I did because I thought that those placards were really well done, they were informative and I found it interesting because the questions that were asked, **I thought were really excellent when geared toward children but also my mom and I [adult woman] enjoyed them too because it was just a little thought provoking and some kind of a different lens.** INTERVIEW 3

All Adult Outcomes

Expand understanding of what young children are capable of

Increase confidence related to interpreting abstract art

Deepen/change attitudes in regard to children having a place in modern/contemporary art museums

Deepen/increase awareness how developmentally appropriate abstraction is for young children

All Children's Outcomes

Feel increased sense of comfort in the museum

Feel increased develop a greater appreciation of their own creativity

Deepen/develop a sense of agency in their own learning

Adult Outcomes

Expand understanding of what young children are capable of

Evidence from Surveys

After viewing the exhibition,

11% of visitors
without children

& 8% of visitors with children

were more likely to state that:

Children have meaningful
perspectives about artwork

&

Children offer opinions that I value

Children's thoughts and quotes

Enhanced the viewing experience
for

68% of visitors
without children

The inclusion of behind-the-scenes
looks at exhibit development
(videos, photos of children
selecting the artwork)

Enhanced the viewing experience
for

74% of visitors
without children

Adult Outcomes

Expand understanding of what young children are capable of

Evidence from Interviews

“

I've been really committed to reading to my children and to putting art supplies into their hands, for example. But I've been less committed to maybe showing them art and exposing them to art above and beyond the art that they're creating. I think that it just **made me take a step back and appreciate how their minds work a little bit and appreciate the capacity that they have to view art starting at such a young age, because I don't think that that's something that I really realized.** INTERVIEW 3

There is a quote specifically, around a child who saw a painting that made him think about a wildfire that he had seen on TV, which was just kind of a **reminder that children are always paying attention and that they're seeing things happening in the world that you may not even know that they're seeing and they're feeling and resonating with them in different ways**, so I think that was that stood out to me. INTERVIEW 3

Every time I come—because they're not labeled and he [Still] didn't say what he was seeing—I'm trying to think about what he was saying. Maybe the children are way to pick up on that, I don't know. Because **they do think that way, they have better imaginations.** INTERVIEW 12

Well, I think it's really lovely. Obviously, the way kids choose something is different from the way we would, right. But **I think that instinctive selection still has a lot of cool value that it's really different than curators selecting a selection of art and arranging it.** INTERVIEW 2

Babies don't get out early enough and I think just the research on babies and what the research here shows that **babies are really interactive.**
INTERVIEW 12

Adult Outcomes

Increase confidence related to interpreting abstract art



Evidence from Surveys

For of visitors who came
Without children...

After viewing the exhibition,

18%

were more likely to state that:

They felt more confident
interpreting abstract art

Children's thoughts and quotes
Made

68%

Think differently about
the artwork

Children's thoughts and quotes
Made

40%

More confident in their own
interpretations

Adult Outcomes

Increase confidence related to interpreting abstract art

Evidence from Surveys

For of visitors who came
With children...

After viewing the
exhibition,

18%

were more likely to state
that:

They felt more confident
interpreting abstract art

Visiting with
their Children
Helped

83%

Connect to the
artwork

Visiting with
their Children
Opened new
questions for

73%

Of respondents

Visiting with
their Children
Gave

67%

More confidence in
their own
interpretations

Adult Outcomes

Increase confidence related to interpreting abstract art

Evidence from Interviews

“

I don't know if at-ease is the right word, it [children's thoughts and quotes] put you at-ease to interpret it in a more free flowing way than it should mean this or that, **[kids] are very upfront about how they interpret art, so it allows you that freedom.** INTERVIEW 1

That [children's thoughts and quotes] changed for me a lot, because at least **sometimes I don't know how to think about a painting. So especially when you think of a kid's perspective on it, that can kind of lead in the same direction as the kid, or maybe taking the complete opposite direction.** Just say, hey, well they thought of it this way, but I'm thinking about it kind of [literally] or just in a completely different light. So, I like that. INTERVIEW 4

When I was looking at how the kids were interpreting it, I was kind of thinking about if I saw the same thing, what would I say? I would look at it and think like oh, this is what I thought, and then look at what they thought. There was one that they said looked like a shark. And I was thinking, I did kind of look at it and think of the ocean, so, I was like, shark, that's kind of interesting. INTERVIEW 1

There was a quote from the kid about liking that they felt small compared to a lot of pieces here. **I don't know if that changed how I thought about it, but it definitely made me reflect that I had also been thinking that, or I realized that I had also been thinking that.** INTERVIEW 2

Adult Outcomes

Increase confidence related to interpreting abstract art
(CONTINUED)

Evidence from Interviews

“

It's [children's perspectives] just **another way to think about them**. I tend to just look at the paintings and **it was just helpful**. Another way of thinking about them. INTERVIEW 12

I think art is so subjective, so I think sometimes **when I see some of the more academic or some of the more formal context or copy on an artist, sometimes I kind of tune out a little bit and I'm more about how it makes me feel or what I see, and I think it was interesting looking at it from perspective**. I also think that anytime you can make something, just feel more relatable and more understandable, more human, more digestible, I don't think that's a bad thing. INTERVIEW 3

Sometimes it breaks it down the impression of a kid and the view[s] of kids **make it more simple, in a good way**. INTERVIEW 10

It makes your brain work differently and then it changes the things that you see, so there were some of the abstract paintings that **if the question up there you know, how does this make you feel, or what are you seeing?, hadn't been up there, she might have just looked at it and kept walking, and the same with me**. I probably definitely would have looked at it and kept walking, **but it made us stop and actually talk about it**. INTERVIEW 3

For me, I think it was, in a way, something which I admire, from the eyes of a child, how they perceive art in a very different way from how we perceive. Yeah, **they seem to view it as something that is more clean and unadulterated, whereas the adults we tend to look at it in a more complicated fashion**, so they see as it is, and they and they just say it. INTERVIEW 7

Adult Outcomes

Deepen/change attitudes in regard to children having a place in modern/contemporary art museums

Evidence from Surveys

After viewing the exhibition,

17% of visitors
without children

&

18% of visitors with children

were more likely to state that:

Children belong in modern/contemporary art museums

Adult Outcomes

Deepen/change attitudes in regard to children having a place in modern/contemporary art museums

Evidence from Interviews

“

The children should not be excluded from these places, **you can't say, oh, it's far too intellectual for the children to understand** now. They get what they want out of it. **We tend to over intellectualize.** INTERVIEW 10

Well, yeah, I mean because they just blurt it out. I don't tend to do that. I'm an adult and I don't think that way. I mean then **that's why we need each other.** We need kids around all the time. INTERVIEW 6

Some of my friends are like [what are you] doing at the Clyfford Still Museum with your girls, [and I'm] like, you don't understand, there are so many ways to engage your kiddos with art. So, it's something that I'm trying to share with my friend group too; bring your kiddos in. The zoo is amazing, the Museum of Nature and Science is amazing, but think a little bit broader too, because **there are experiences for kids everywhere and seeing museums embrace children just makes me so happy.** Instead [of being] like, this is a museum, you're supposed to be quiet, **it's this is a place to look at things and engage with things and here is a space where you can touch. Here is a space you can observe.** INTERVIEW 5

I was a little bit concerned that it wouldn't be super kid friendly for her because she's a little bit little, you know. But **I was pleasantly surprised. But it was great, she did fine.** INTERVIEW 15

...so, when I heard they had an exhibit curated by and geared toward kiddos, I thought this would be a perfect time to introduce her to the world of museums and see what they had. **After one visit, we've decided to become members.** INTERVIEW 13

Adult Outcomes

Deepen/change attitudes in regard to children having a place in modern/contemporary art museums
(CONTINUED)

Evidence from Interviews

“

Yeah, we'll actually be coming back this weekend...**When we got here, and we realized a lot of it was geared toward the younger mind and children that excited me** as well because I have a 2 1/2-year-old and a ten-month-old. And my 2 1/2-year-old is very into art. We have our art cabinet, and she has to get her art supplies out every morning. So, **in addition to seeing the art and having her first museum experience, it'll be really neat to go upstairs and do the [Making Space] and some of the interactive stuff and to experience the textiles and the projections.** I think that's really well done. INTERVIEW 3

And I think it's a bit of a learning experience, **because after this first experience, What can we do next? and How can we start to deepen the conversation from here? How can we add more experiences to our outings? How can we focus more of our outings, around art, etc.?**

Yeah, so I think it just grows from there. INTERVIEW 3

Also **great for kids**, if you have kids and you want to get them into art, or, if you had a friend who had a kid, I would recommend that this would be a place. Or like a field trip, I could see this being a fun field trip. **But also, for adults, either way, just like definitely a cool, I feel like it's fun for everyone.** INTERVIEW 1

I do love the way they've done this because I remember years ago when my kids were little we would go to the Denver Art Museum where they had some little kids corner, which is a little bit like the [Making Space], but I always felt like it kind of more wanted you to keep your kids in this little safe space and not the real art, where **this is wonderful because you're inviting kids to just be artists, to learn from the art, and the work here is something that really can appeal to really young kids because it is just so bold that you know they can get it right away.** INTERVIEW 8

Adult Outcomes

Deepen/increase awareness how developmentally appropriate abstraction is for young children

Evidence from Surveys

After viewing the exhibition,

16% of visitors
without children
&

13% of visitors with children

were more likely to state that:

**Abstract art is appropriate
for children**

Children's thoughts and quotes
Made

74% of visitors
without children

**Have a deeper appreciation for
how children see art**

Adult Outcomes

Deepen/increase awareness how developmentally appropriate abstraction is for young children

Evidence from Interviews

“

I haven't really thought about it, but I actually feel like kids would be the right audience for abstract arts. Because they don't necessarily have an expectation of what they're looking for in a certain type of painting. **I think they can just react to arts very genuinely,** and I think it's great that hopefully this attracts more kids and schools to actually bring younger kiddos to look at abstract art. INTERVIEW 9

Today it was very exciting. We were looking at the faces and talking about the parts of the face, which we do a lot when we're reading books and stuff, but **today for the first time she pointed to her nose and touched her nose when we were talking about Clyfford Still's self- portrait, of all things.** I was like, there's mommy's nose and his nose and your nose and she points at her nose and that was the first time she did that. And then, she loves fish, so, it was really interesting today when we were up there and trying to look at shapes and talk about what they were. There were **some of the paintings that have some white and some orange or yellow that are sort of like almost triangular looking. And she kept saying fish. Because that was her third word.** She kept saying fish, fish, fish and I thought that was so interesting. INTERVIEW 5

...we've always been an art family, but it makes me even more like wanting to do more with them and wanting to make sure that we have supplies at home and that we engage with it, and we **talk about all these things in books.** But, I would think too for other people that haven't necessarily had that experience before, that it's really it makes it so much more approachable, right? INTERVIEW 5

Adult Outcomes

Deepen/increase awareness how developmentally appropriate abstraction is for young children
(CONTINUED)

Evidence from Interviews

“

Yeah, absolutely, just taking that time to really look at things and look at them more slowly and work through a painting and see all the colors and see all the details that you might miss as an adult when you're just kind of cruising by, so that's fun to get to share that with her because **she really does make me see things that I wouldn't have even looked. She'll point the tiniest fraction of a bright color where you're like, oh, I've looked at this painting 20 times and I hadn't seen that before.** So, it's really, really special to get to sort of see it through her eyes in that way. INTERVIEW 5

She's one tomorrow, so she's obviously not fully verbal, but **I could tell when she's trying to latch onto and see and [what] she gets excited about.** INTERVIEW 5

I think my **response was more of an appreciation for the younger mind because there were some things upstairs like how the child's brain is working when they see art or how they're looking at art,** and I watched the video where the kids were responding in different ways, they were reaching for things or they were staring at things. INTERVIEW 3

Like today, she'd **noticed that colorful** one right off of the elevator and kind of **exclaimed, Ooh!** And **then we just talked about colors** and I said blue, and she pointed. And then I was like, Do you see green? and then she looked over there and she pointed at another one. INTERVIEW 13

Children's Outcomes

Feel increased sense of comfort in the museum; feed validated in their role in cultural institutions

Evidence from Surveys

97%

of Visitors with children

Noticed their children pointing at, staring, getting excited looking at artworks

89%

of Visitors with children

Reported interacting with their children by making art with lightboxes

81%

of Visitors with children

Noticed their children asking questions and talking about the art

66%

of Visitors with children

Noticed their children watching videos/looking at photos of young co-developers

Children's Outcomes

Develop a greater appreciation of their own creativity

Evidence from Surveys

89%

of Visitors with children

Reported
interacting with
their children by
making art with
lightboxes

81%

of Visitors with children

Noticed their
children asking
questions and
talking about the
art

Children's Outcomes

Develop a greater appreciation of their own creativity

Evidence from Interviews



We did the light boxes a few times and **she liked playing with all the different texture of those materials**. But yeah, pretty much every time we mentioned the museum, she makes the coloring motion. INTERVIEW 13

Caroline (6 yr-old): I saw like, **the blue water coming down and then there's fire at the top**. It reminds me that heat floats up and condensation sinks; the fire because it is hot and the water because it is cold. I thought when I grow up I could be and an art girl and I can be a veterinarian so I can show the people how good I can draw and paint. INTERVIEW 16

13 yr-old: I feel like I put everything on there and **it was abstract**, and I didn't know what it was. [Did you take any inspiration from Clyfford Still's artwork?] Yeah, me and my mom were reading this thing about like the lifeline and **I used one of those screens as a lifeline**. INTERVIEW 17

She's pretty even-keeled, so if she starts to like kick or really vocalize, I pay attention. She loves to like put [herself in] the colored cellophane there. It's like, **"OK, you really like this texture, and you really like these bright colors, you like seeing how these colors work."** That makes something turn-on in my brain of like, OK, then I need to make sure that we're talking about that and we're playing with this kind of texture and looking at colors. I definitely get kind of this insight into her, too, which is really, really special. INTERVIEW 5

We watched the video in the [Making Space]. And I think **she notices that there are children in it. I've noticed her looking**. INTERVIEW 3

Children's Outcomes

Deepen/develop a sense of agency in their own learning

Evidence from Surveys

97%

of Visitors with children

Noticed their children pointing at, staring, getting excited looking at artworks

89%

of Visitors with children

Reported interacting with their children by making art with lightboxes

81%

of Visitors with children

Noticed their children asking questions and talking about the art

Children's Outcomes

Deepen/develop a sense of agency in their own learning

Evidence from Interviews

“

I can usually tell by body language I would say because she's pointing up. Like today, **she'd noticed that colorful one right off of the elevator and kind of exclaimed, oh. And then we just kind of talked about colors and I said like blue, and she pointed.**

And then I was like, do you see green and then she looked over there and she pointed at another one. INTERVIEW 13

It was colorful, he said it's a rainbow. So, he noticed that as he was going through, and **he was speaking about it pointing getting excited.** The other thing, the train-horse-cow I was trying to show him this look and to notice this, so he saw that. So that's something that he knows and then he could see it and say it's a train. INTERVIEW 14



Data Collection

Summative Evaluation Report

Data Collection

Data collection involved a survey in 2 phases and interviews

Instruments

Exit survey for visitors with children

Exit survey for visitors without children

Both versions were available in Spanish

Both versions were available as pen/paper and tablet

3 volunteers were trained to administer the surveys in the lobby of the Clyfford Still Museum

Interviews

Onsite, intercept, exit interviews

Volunteers helped to recruit visitors for interviews, Trainer Evaluation conducted all interviews

Phase 1 Debrief

On June 29th, the Team (Nicole, Bailey, Lori and Trainer Evaluation) met for a virtual debrief session. The Team reviewed the findings of the data collected so far, assessed which outcomes had the most evidence and where we still need more data. From there, the survey instruments were amended to drill down on holes in the data.

The amended surveys were used for Phase 2, which took place throughout July until the end of the exhibition on August 7, 2022.

Exit Surveys

Visitors *Without* Children | **n=277**

Phase 1 | **n=233**

Did they know about exhibit?

If so, what were thoughts?

Notice new gallery features

Before and after statements about children, art and museums

Number of adults in group

Age of adults

Member

First time visiting

Zip code

Disability

Race/ethnicity

Phase 2 | **n=44**

Notice new gallery features with different response scale

Rating statements related to children's quotes in the exhibit

Before and after statements about children, art and museums

Age of adults

Member

First time visiting

Zip code

Disability

Race/ethnicity

Exit Surveys

Visitors *With Children* | **n=69**

Phase 1 | **n=30**

Questions related to visiting with their child

Did they know about exhibit?

If so, what were thoughts?

Notice new gallery features

Before and after statements about children, art and museums

Number of adults in group

Age of adults

Number of kids in group

Age of kids

Member

First time visiting

Zip code

Disability

Race/ethnicity

Phase 2 | **n=39**

Questions related to visiting with their child

Notice new gallery features with different response scale

Interactions they had with their child

Rating statements related to children's quotes in the exhibit

Before and after statements about children, art and museums

Actions they noticed their child doing in exhibit

Age of adults

Member

First time visiting

Zip code

Disability

Race/ethnicity

Exit Survey | Phase 1 Dates

Day	Date	Time(s)	Special Event
Sunday	May 8	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	Music in the Galleries
Sunday	May 15	11am to 1pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	School Partner & Family Celebration
Thursday	May 12	2:30 to 4:30pm	
Tuesday	May 17	11am to 1pm	
Wednesday	May 18	10:30am to 12:30pm and 2:30-4:30pm	SCFD Free Day
Wednesday	May 25	11am to 1pm	Art Crawl
Saturday	May 28	11am to 1pm	Art Crawl
Saturday	June 4	11am to 1pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	
Sunday	June 5,	11am to 1pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	
Thursday	June 9	11am to 1pm	
Friday	June 10	10:30am to 12:30pm and 2:30-4:30pm	SCFD Free Day
Sunday	June 12	11am to 1pm	Family Program
Wednesday	June 15th	10:30am to 12:30pm	
Saturday	June 18	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	
Thursday	June 23rd	10:30am to 12:30pm	
Saturday	June 25	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	

Exit Survey | Phase 2 Dates

Day	Date	Time(s)	Special Event
Wednesday	July 13	10:30am to 12:30pm	
Saturday	July 16	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	
Thursday	July 21	1:30 to 3:30pm	
Sunday	July 24	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	SCFD Free Day
Thursday	July 28	1:30 to 3:30pm	
Wednesday	August 3	10:30am to 12:30pm	
Friday	August 5	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	SCFD Free Day
Saturday	August 6	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	
Sunday	August 7	10:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 3:30pm	

On-site Interviews | Dates

Day	Date	Time(s)	Special Event
Wednesday	May 25	10:30am to 12:30pm	
Friday	June 4	10:30am to 12:30pm	
Thursday	June 9	1:30 to 4:30pm	
Friday	August 5	10:30am to 12:30pm	SCFD Free Day

Data Sets

There are 9 data sets that provide the information for this report

Data Set 1

Survey, Phase 1 – Visitors With Children – English

Data Set 2

Survey, Phase 1 – Visitors With Children – Spanish

Data Set 3

Survey, Phase 1 – Visitors With Out Children – English

Data Set 4

Survey, Phase 1 – Visitors With Out Children – Spanish

Data Set 5

Survey, Phase 2 – Visitors With Children – English

Data Set 6

Survey, Phase 2 – Visitors With Children – Spanish

Data Set 7

Survey, Phase 2 – Visitors With Out Children – English

Data Set 8

Survey, Phase 2 – Visitors With Out Children – Spanish

Data Set 9

Interviews – Visitors With and With Out Children - English

Limitations

There are 9 data sets that provide the information for this report

Time

The data could only be collected during the run of the exhibition, which means visitors during the summer months.

Timing

We experimented with several different data collection time slots and days to ensure that we surveyed a robust number of visitors with children

Interview Language

Interviews were conducted in English only

Interviewing Children

We did not directly interview children, as that was not part of the purview of the IRB without fairly extensive consent and assent forms. Due to the nature of intercept, exit surveys, most parents only had a few minutes to talk and therefore it was decided to focus on interviewing parents.

Observations

Observations were planned but it did not work out to document the data that we sought

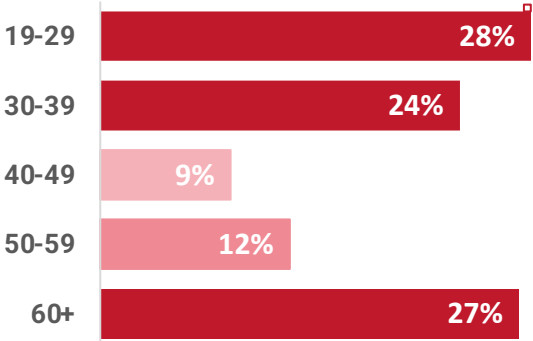
An abstract artwork featuring various translucent, overlapping shapes in shades of pink, red, orange, yellow, blue, and green. A hand is visible on the right side, interacting with the composition. The background includes some dark, textured elements and a white area at the top right.

Visitors *Without* Children

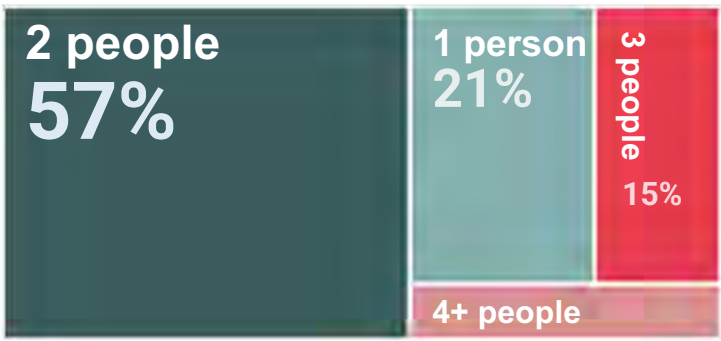
Summative Evaluation Report

A bit about who responded...

Age range



Group Size



Disability

5%

Identified as having a disability

Members

3%

Were members

Visitation

79% First time visitor

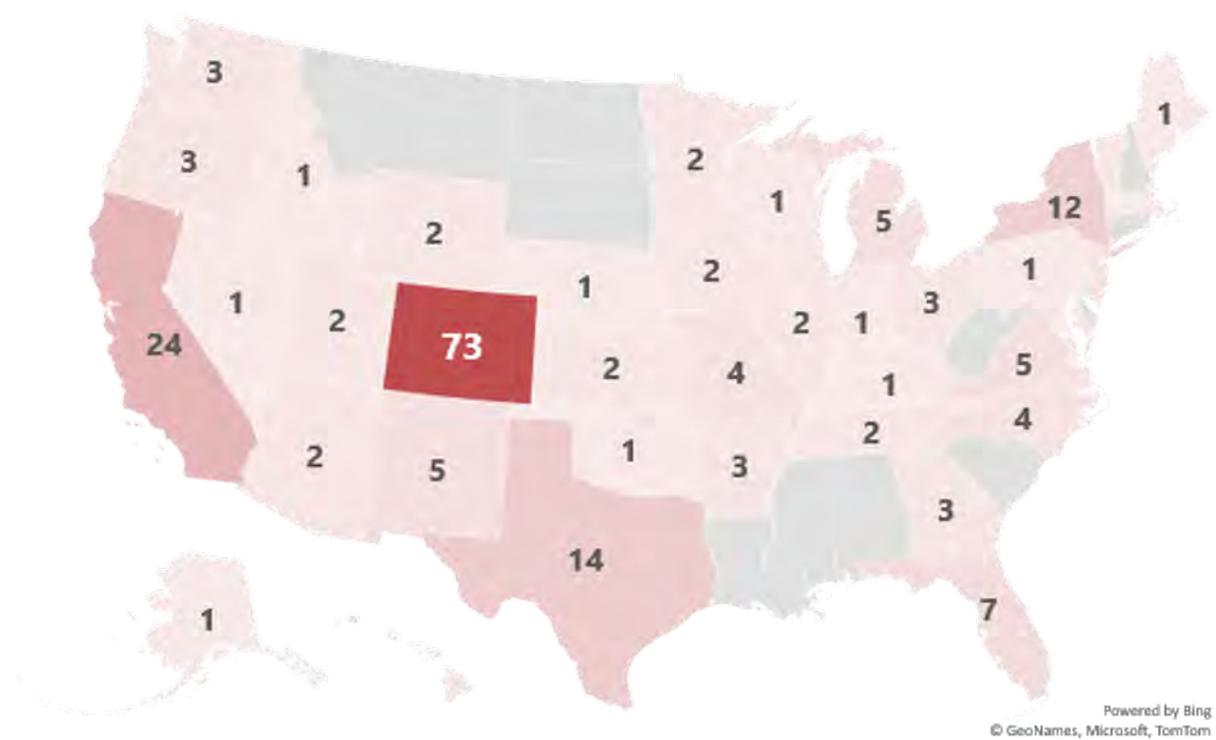
13% Repeat visitor

7% Hadn't been in a while

Race/Ethnicity



Where they came from...



Arvada	2
Aurora	5
Broomfield	3
Louisville	1
Westminster	1
Castle Rock	2
Englewood	2
Littleton	3
Parker	1
Denver	21
Evergreen	1
Nederland	1
Longmont	1
Erie	1
Fort Collins	2
Timnath	1
Brighton	1
Fort Lupton	1
Colorado Springs	2
Canon City	1
Telluride	1

An abstract artwork featuring multiple layers of translucent, colored paper or fabric in shades of pink, red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. A hand is visible on the right side, interacting with the layers. The background is a mix of these colors, creating a complex, layered effect.

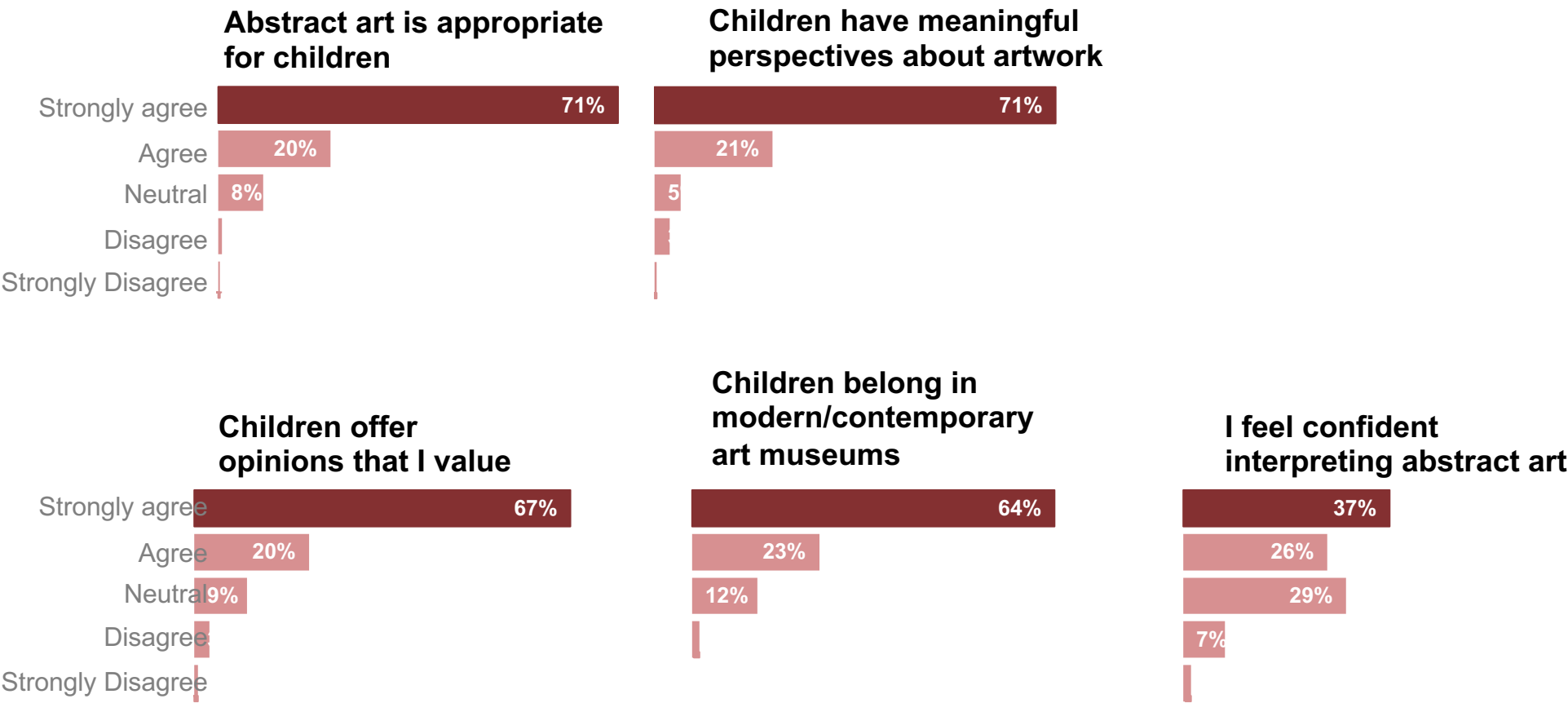
Visitors Without Children

Combined Data from Phase 1 & 2

Summative Evaluation Report

Attitudes **BEFORE** viewing the exhibit

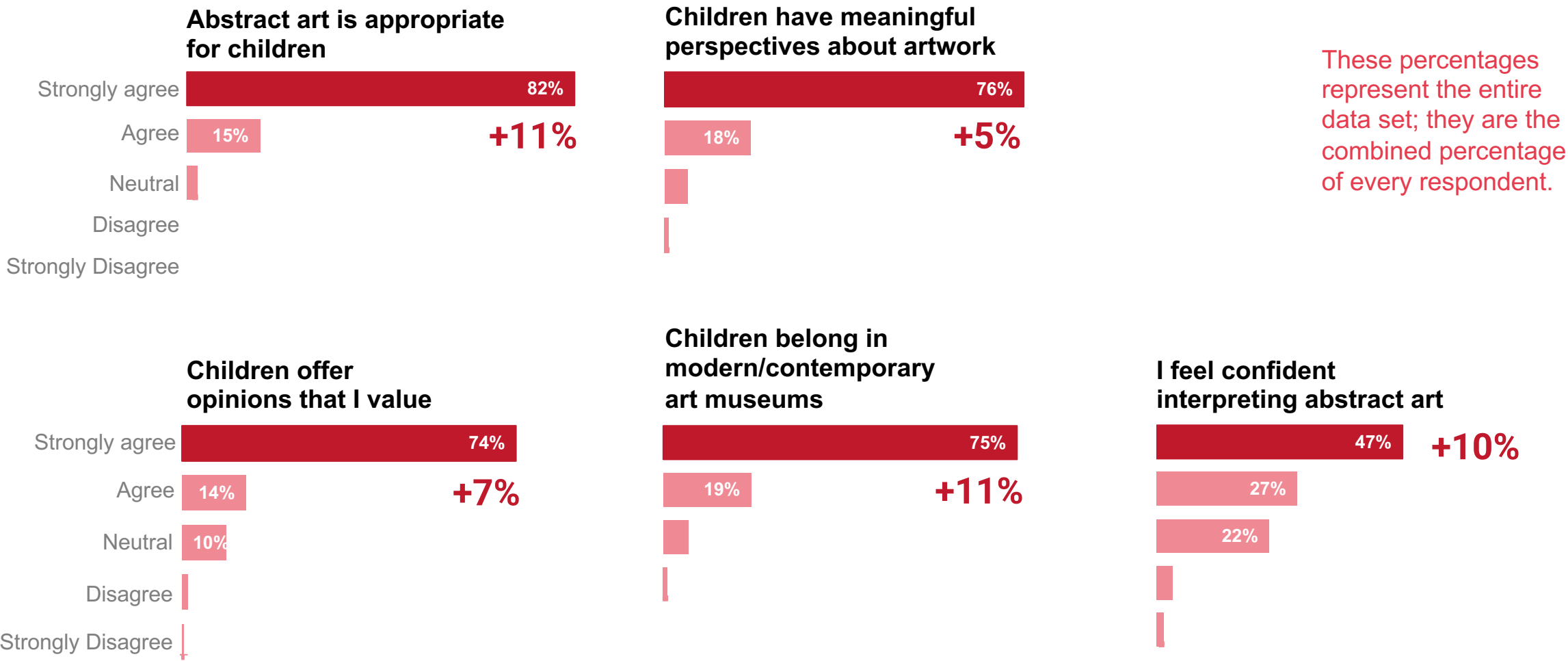
These percentages are an aggregate of the whole; not by respondent. Survey language was changed during data collection to try and get a more nuanced response from visitors, as many were rating every statement as strongly agree and agree, except for “I feel confident interpreting abstract art.” The change did not yield meaningful change in the average of visitor responses, people continued to feel strongly about each statement. Although staff expected to find that respondents had more mixed opinions in relation to children, art museums, and abstract art, the audience was largely very positive in their views.



These percentages represent the entire data set; they are the combined percentage of every respondent.

Attitudes **AFTER** viewing the exhibit

As an entirety, there was positive movement in every category; that is a respondent moved at least one step up the scale, be it from agree to strongly agree or disagree to neutral, for example. There was also some negative movement, where respondents moved down the scale, from strongly agree to agree or neutral to disagree, for example. However, this happened in only 2-3% of respondents in relation to every statement.



Attitudes **AFTER** viewing the exhibit

These percentages are by respondent, not an aggregate of the whole. That is, this calculation looked at how each respondent rated the statement before and after the exhibit, which then shows the percentage of people who indicated positive movement. Positive movement is taking at least one step 'up the scale.' The largest gains were in those categories that saw the smallest number of respondents indicating strongly agree, that is, these categories had the most room for positive movement. There was also strong movement in those who thought "Abstract art is appropriate for children."

% moving in a positive direction, i.e. going at least one step up the scale, from agree to strongly agree or disagree to neutral, for example

Abstract art is appropriate for children

16%

Children have meaningful perspectives about artwork

11%

These percentages are by respondent, they are not an aggregate of the whole.

Children offer opinions that I value

11%

Children belong in modern/contemporary art museums

17%

I feel confident interpreting abstract art

18%

% moving in a positive direction, i.e. going at least one step up the scale, from agree to strongly agree or disagree to neutral, for example

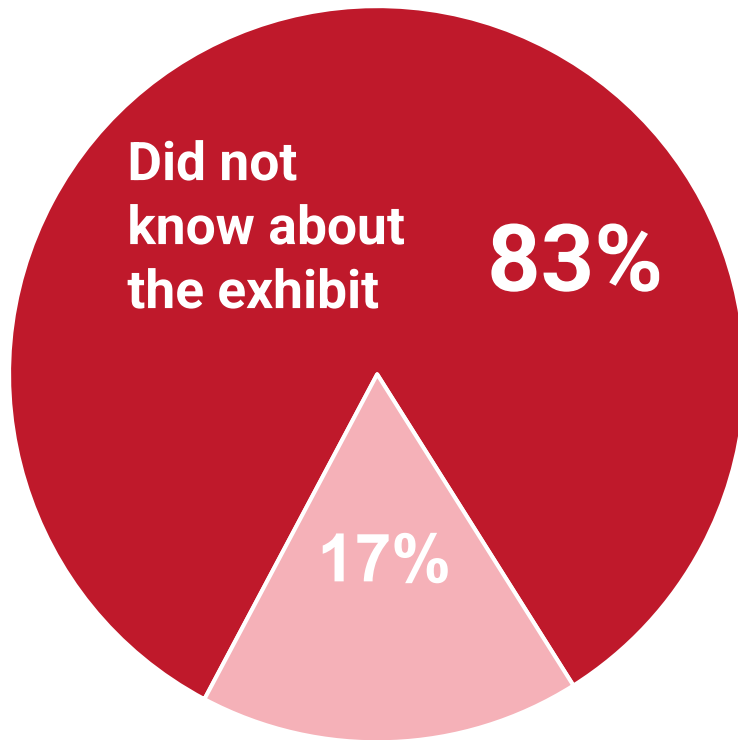
An abstract collage background featuring various elements: a hand holding a yellow paper triangle on the right, a map of the United States in the center, and overlapping translucent papers in shades of pink, red, blue, and green. The overall composition is layered and artistic.

Visitors Without Children

Only Phase 1 Data

Summative Evaluation Report

Did you know about the exhibition before coming?



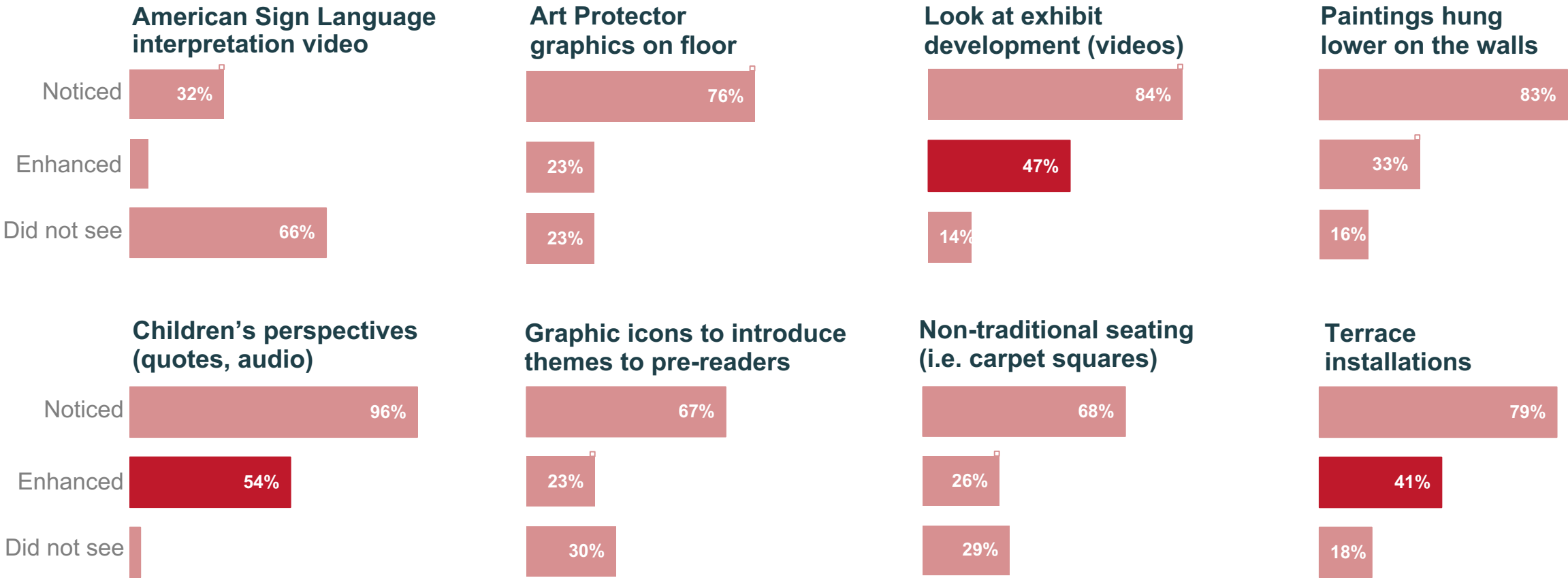
Knowing about the exhibit made me...



The Museum added several new features and changed some existing features as part of this exhibition.

“Children’s perspectives,” “Look at exhibit development,” and “Terrace installations” **enhanced** the experience for respondents. The response categories for this question were changed for Phase 2; that data can be found on page 45. It shows an even greater percentage of respondents for whom these features enhanced the exhibition.

Percentages can add up to over 100% as people could select both noticed and enhanced.



An abstract collage background featuring various colorful paper scraps, a hand holding a yellow paper, and a map of the United Kingdom. The colors include red, pink, green, blue, orange, and yellow. The hand is positioned on the right side, holding a yellow paper. The map of the United Kingdom is visible in the center-left area.

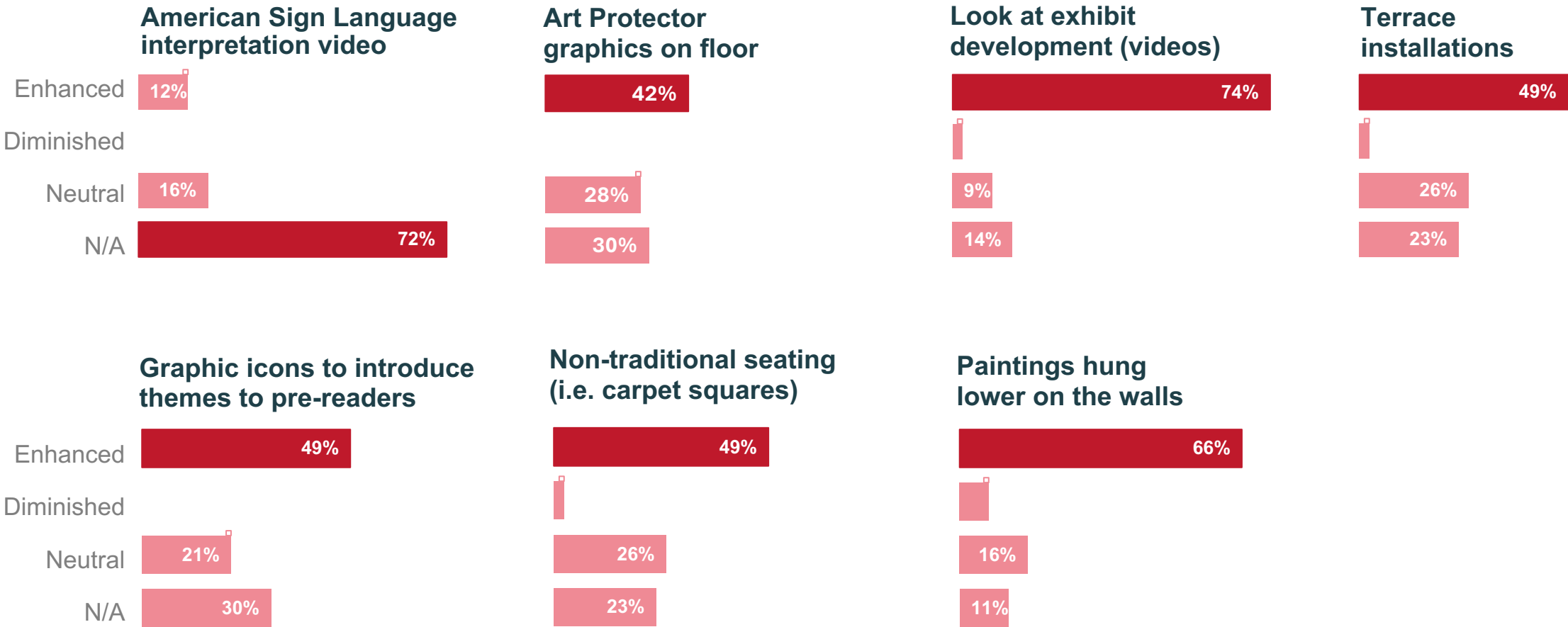
Visitors Without Children

Only Phase 2 Data

Summative Evaluation Report

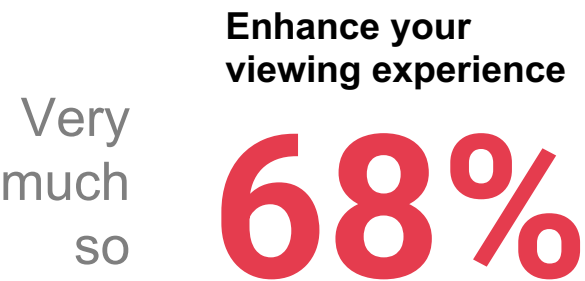
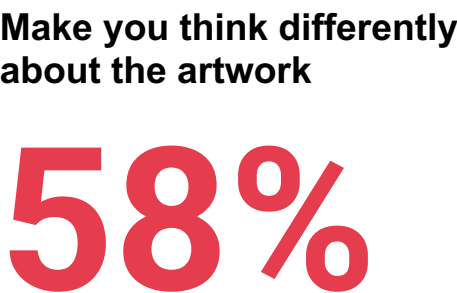
The **new features** added as a part of this exhibition **enhanced** the experience of Visitors Without Children.

In Phase 2, the negative was added to see if it was more than just noticing the new features and to clear up any confusion with the question. Respondents could now choose Enhanced my experience, Diminished my experience, Neutral and N/A (for those who did not notice the feature).



The children's thoughts & quotes presented in the exhibition positively affected visitors without children.

This question was added to get a more nuanced understanding of how the children's thoughts and quotes affected the visitor experience. It grew out of the previous iteration where respondents were asked if they noticed the children's thoughts and quotes and if it enhanced their experience. Respondents could rate each statement as Very much so, A little bit, Not really, or Not at all.



Respondents are still the most hesitant when it comes to their own ability to interpret art. 30% indicated A little bit, 26% Not really, and 5% Not at all.

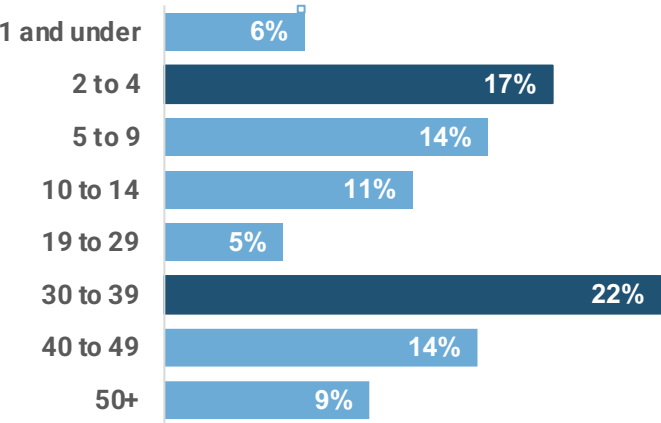
An abstract collage background featuring various elements: a red string tied in a knot at the top left; a hand reaching down from the top right, holding a yellow paper triangle; several translucent and solid-colored paper scraps in shades of pink, blue, green, and orange; and a crinkled gold foil strip at the bottom. The overall composition is layered and artistic.

Visitors *With* Children

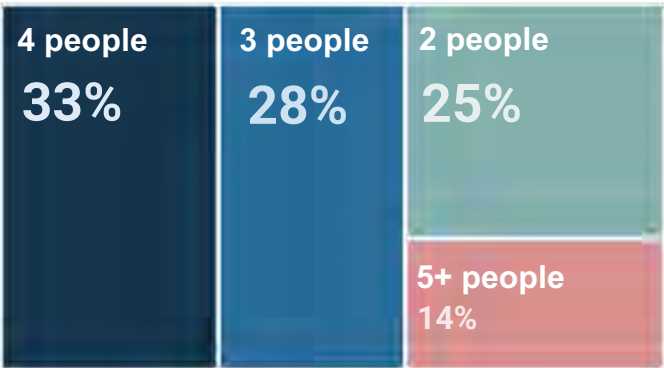
Summative Evaluation Report

A bit about who responded...

Age range



Group Size



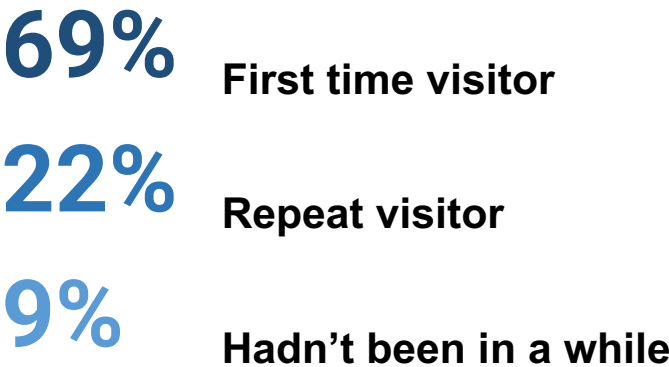
Disability



Members



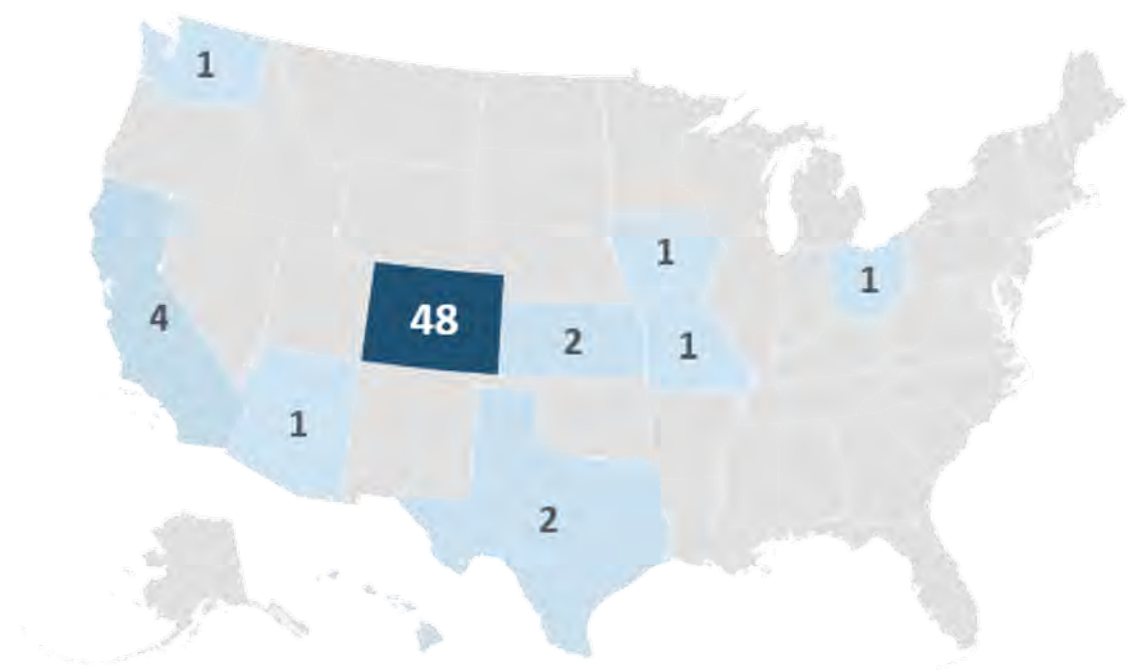
Visitation



Race/Ethnicity



Where they came from...



Powered by Bing
© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom

Arvada	3
Aurora	5
Bailey	1
Boulder	2
Broomfield	1
Dacono	1
Denver	24
Englewood	2
Erie	1
Fort Collins	1
Gypsum	1
Littleton	3
Longmont	1
Louisville	1
Loveland	1

An abstract artwork featuring multiple layers of translucent, colored paper in shades of pink, red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. A hand is visible on the right side, holding or interacting with the layers. The background is a mix of these colors, creating a complex, layered effect.

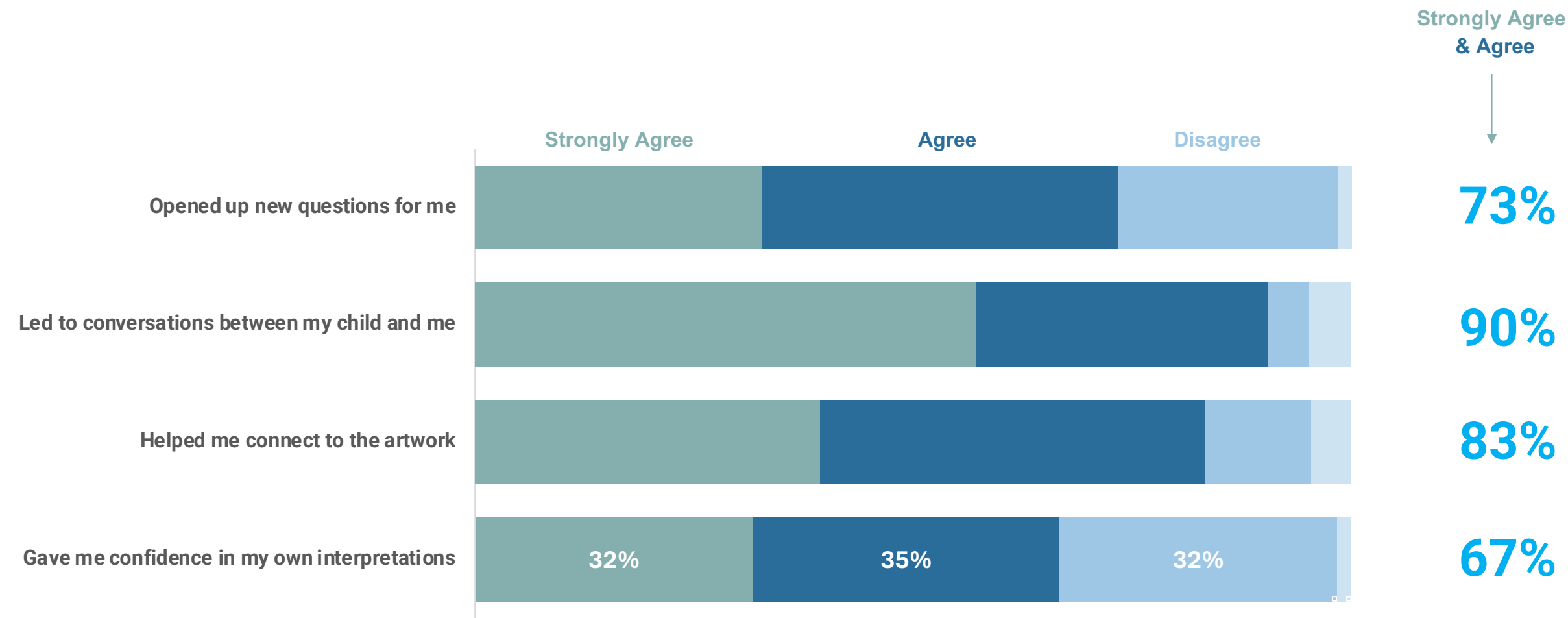
Visitors Without Children

Combined Data from Phase 1 & 2

Summative Evaluation Report

Visiting with my child...

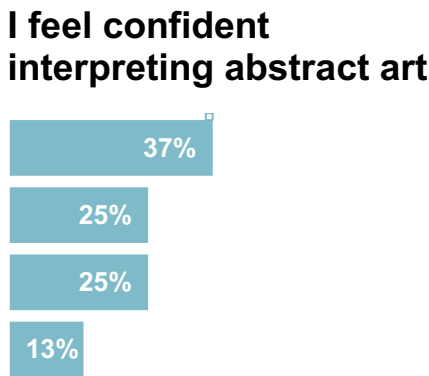
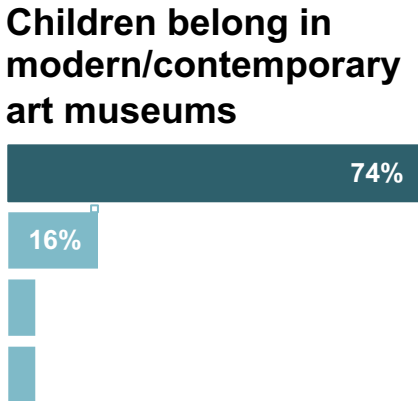
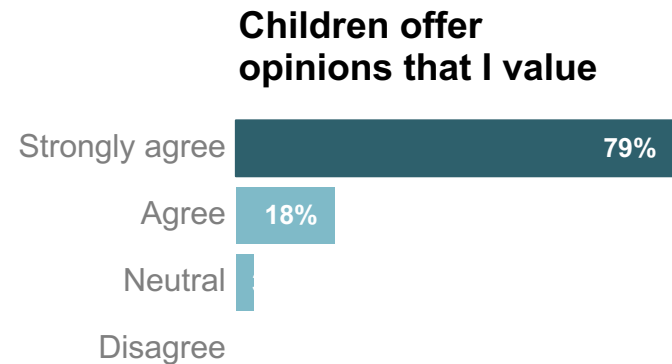
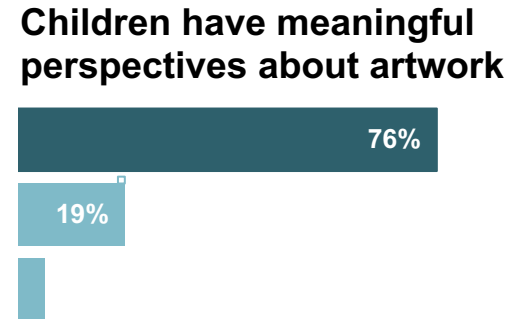
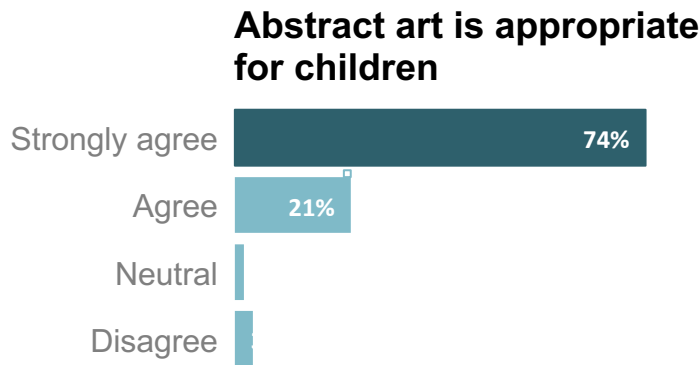
Visiting with their children had a positive effect on parents. It appears that children can also act as scaffolders of their parent's experience in an art museum; it is not only the child who benefits from having a parent to look at the artwork with them.



Attitudes **BEFORE** viewing the exhibit

Survey language was changed during data collection to try and get a more nuanced response from visitors, as many were rating every statement as strongly agree and agree, except for “I feel confident interpreting abstract art.” The change did not yield meaningful change in the average of visitor responses, people continued to feel strongly about each statement.

Respondents visiting with children had very similar attitudes to those visiting without children; both groups were overwhelming positive in their views towards children, abstract art and art museums. The two exceptions were, those visiting with children were more likely to Strongly agree that Children offer opinions that I value (79% to 67%), and Children belong in modern/contemporary art museums (74% to 64%).

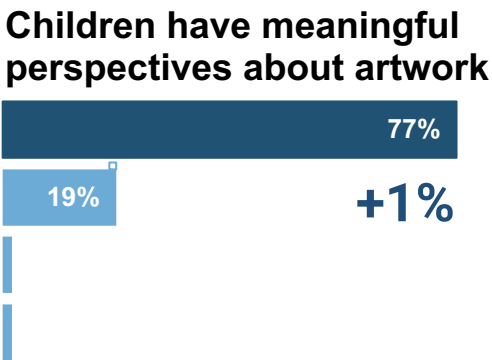
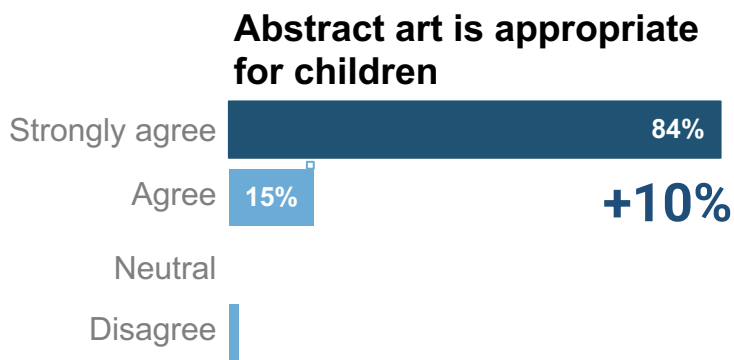


These percentages represent the entire data set; they are the combined percentage of every respondent.

No respondent indicated Strongly Disagree.

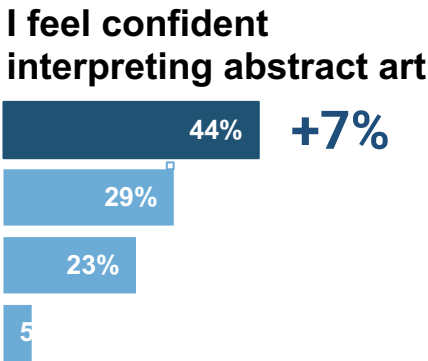
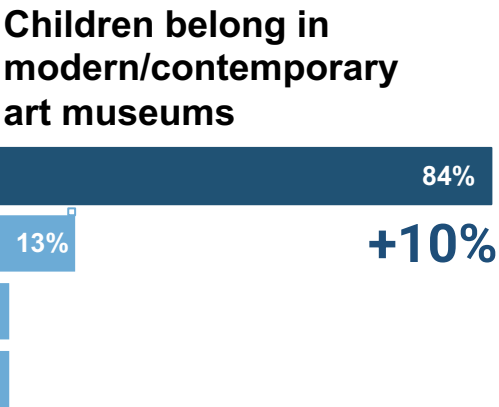
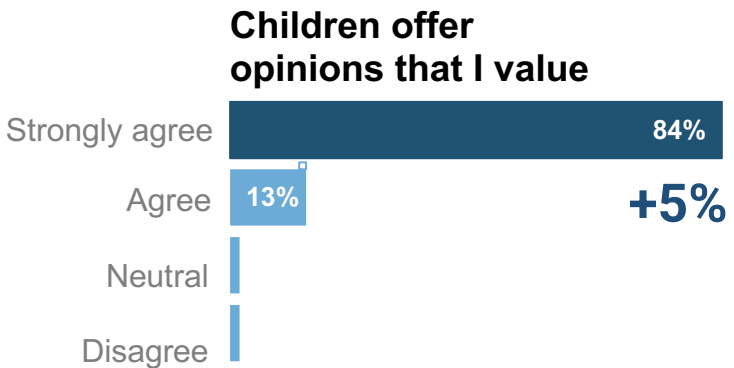
Attitudes **AFTER** viewing the exhibit

As an entirety, there was positive movement in every category; that is a respondent moved at least one step up the scale, be it from agree to strongly agree or disagree to neutral, for example. **The biggest movement was seen in Abstract art is appropriate for children (74% to 84%) and Children belong in modern/contemporary art museum (74% to 84%).**



These percentages represent the entire data set; they are the combined percentage of every respondent.

No respondent selected Strongly disagree.



Attitudes **AFTER** viewing the exhibit

These percentages are by respondent, not an aggregate of the whole. That is, **this calculation looked at how each respondent rated the statement before and after the exhibit, which then shows the percentage of people who indicated positive movement.** Positive movement is taking at least one step 'up the scale.' The largest gains were in those categories that saw the smallest number of respondents indicating strongly agree, that is, these categories had the most room for positive movement. There was also strong movement in those who thought "Abstract art is appropriate for children."

% moving in a positive direction, i.e., going at least one step up the scale, from agree to strongly agree or disagree to neutral, for example

Abstract art is appropriate for children

13%

Children have meaningful perspectives about artwork

8%

These percentages are by respondent, they are not an aggregate of the whole.

Children offer opinions that I value

8%

Children belong in modern/contemporary art museums

13%

I feel confident interpreting abstract art

18%

% moving in a positive direction, i.e., going at least one step up the scale, from agree to strongly agree or disagree to neutral, for example

Caregivers had multiple and varied interactions with their children

On average, caregivers and their children engaged in 5 of these activities during their visit.
The maximum was 8 activities, and the minimum was 1.

Watched videos together
and Read labels together
were added in Phase 2.

In Phase 2, Made art with
the light boxes became
Played with the light boxes.

Made art with
the light boxes

83%

Talked together

81%

Took photos

73%

Listened to
each other

70%

Asked questions

69%

Sat together

69%

Read labels
together

54%

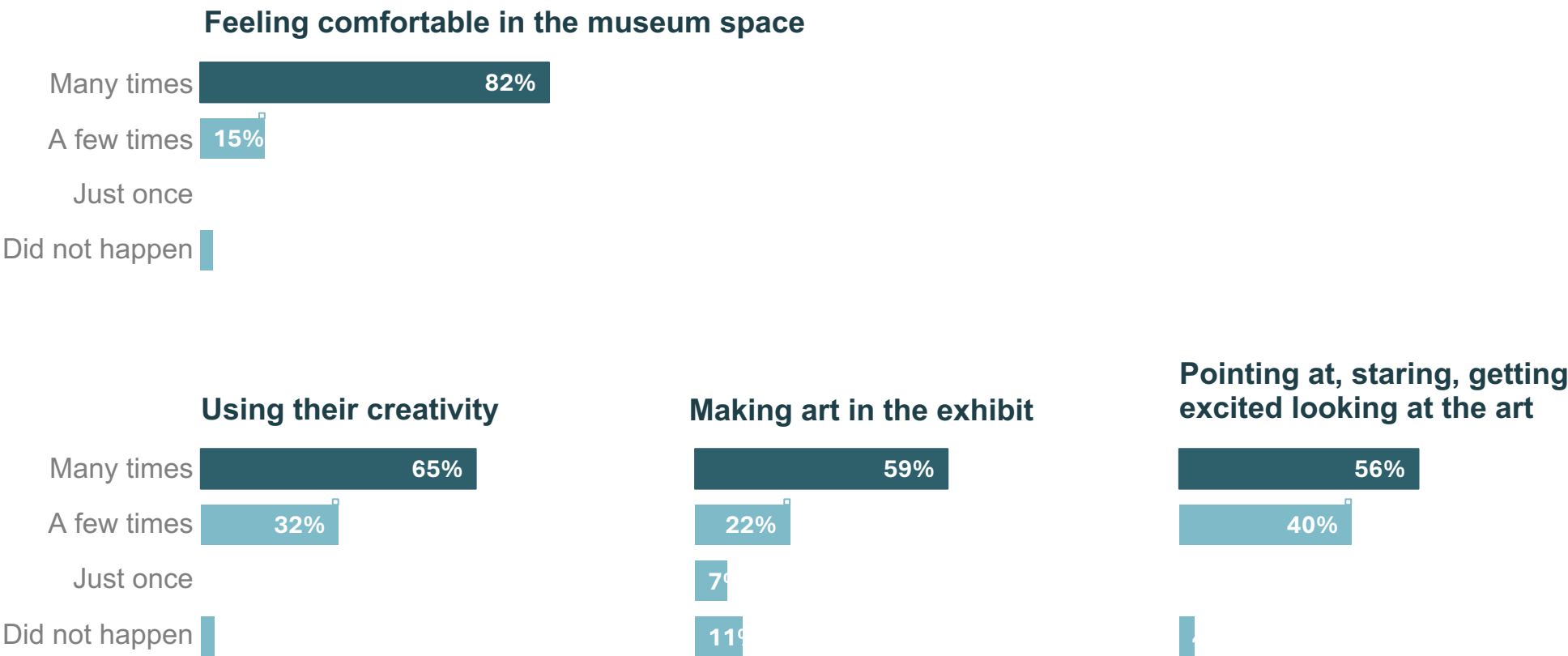
Watched
videos together

32%

In the exhibition, I noticed my child...

Most caregivers noticed their child “Feeling comfortable in the museum space” many times over the course of their visit.

Pointing at, staring, getting excited looking at the art was asked in both Phase 1 & 2.

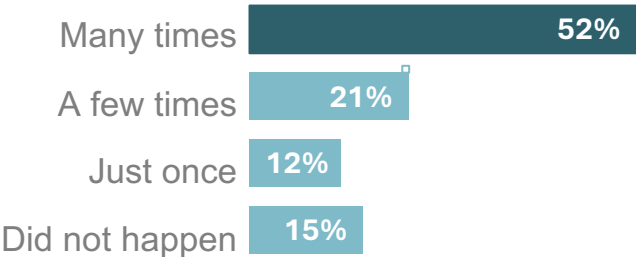


In the exhibition, I noticed my child...

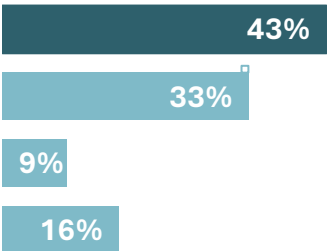
Asking questions and talking about the art was asked in both Phase 1 & 2.

Watching videos/loolng at photos of the co-developers was asked in Phase 1 and Watching videos/reading quotes of the co-developers was in Phase 2.

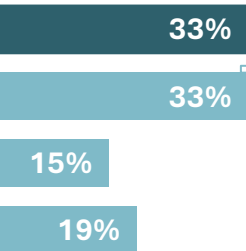
Developing opinions about the artwork



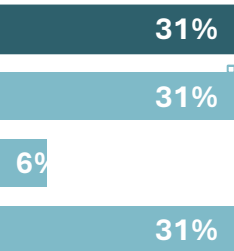
Asking questions and talking about the art



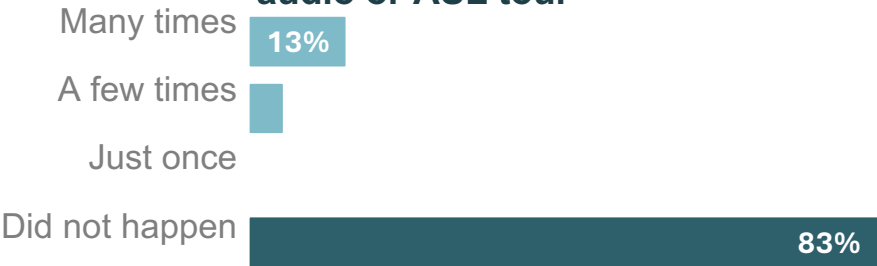
Watching videos/reading quotes



Watching videos/looking at photos



Experiencing the audio or ASL tour



Reading quotes by other children



There's a chance, that in this case, the young age of many of the children prevented this interaction.

An abstract collage background featuring various elements: a hand holding a yellow paper triangle, a map of the United States, and several pieces of translucent, colored paper (pink, blue, orange, yellow) layered over each other. The overall composition is vibrant and artistic.

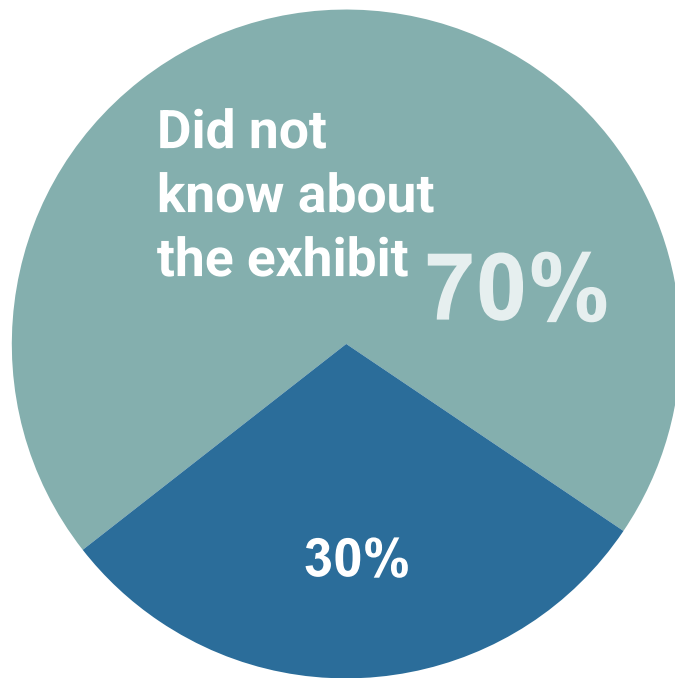
Visitors Without Children

Only Phase 1 Data

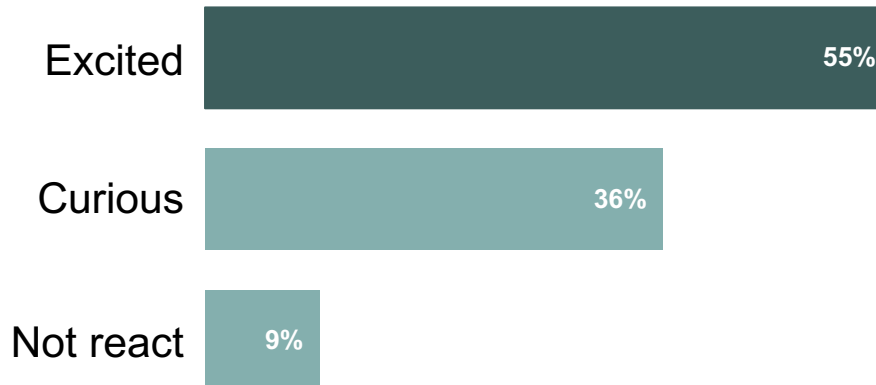
Summative Evaluation Report

Did you know about the exhibition before coming?

Interesting, most caregivers did not know about the exhibition before coming, which means they were bringing their children to see the museum itself, not the exhibit.



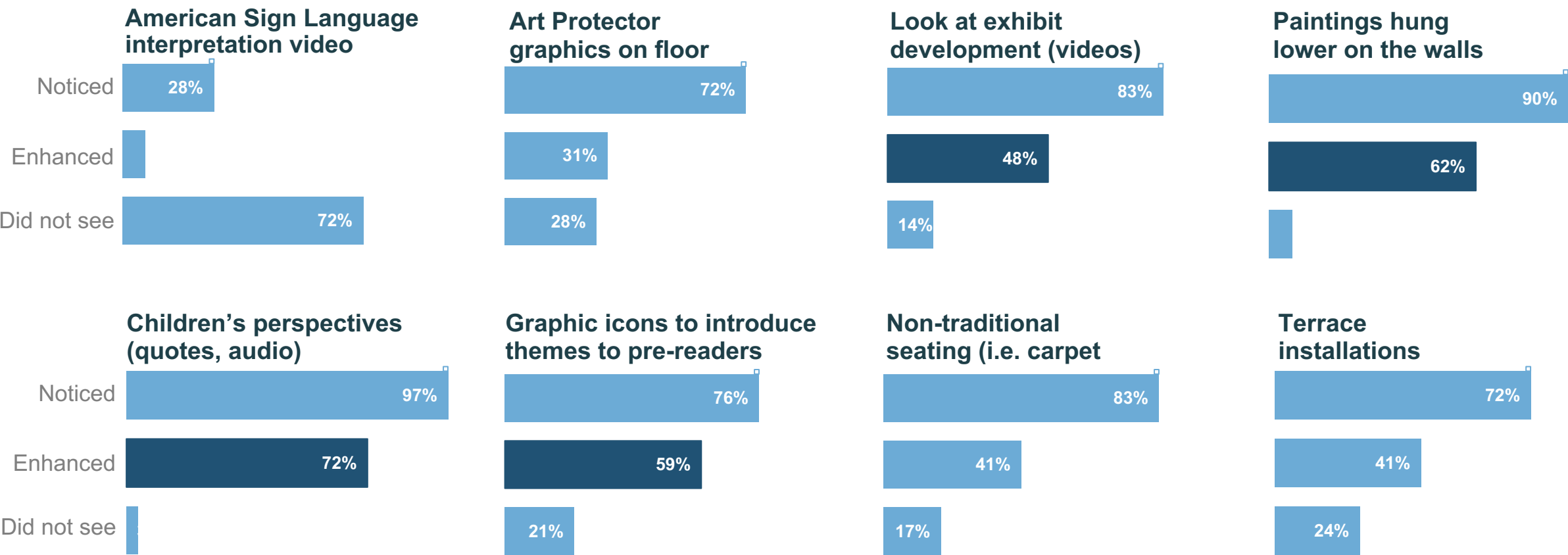
Knowing about the exhibit made me...



The Museum added several new features and changed some existing features as part of this exhibition.

Children’s perspectives, Paintings hung lower on the wall, Graphic icons to introduce themes to pre-readers, and Look at exhibit development all **enhanced the experience for caregivers**.

Percentages can add up to over 100% as people could select both noticed and enhanced.



An abstract collage background featuring various elements: translucent pink and red paper on the left, a green and blue painted area in the center, a bright blue and orange paper on the right, and a hand holding a yellow paper at the bottom right. There are also some dark, textured areas and what looks like a small figure or shape in the center.

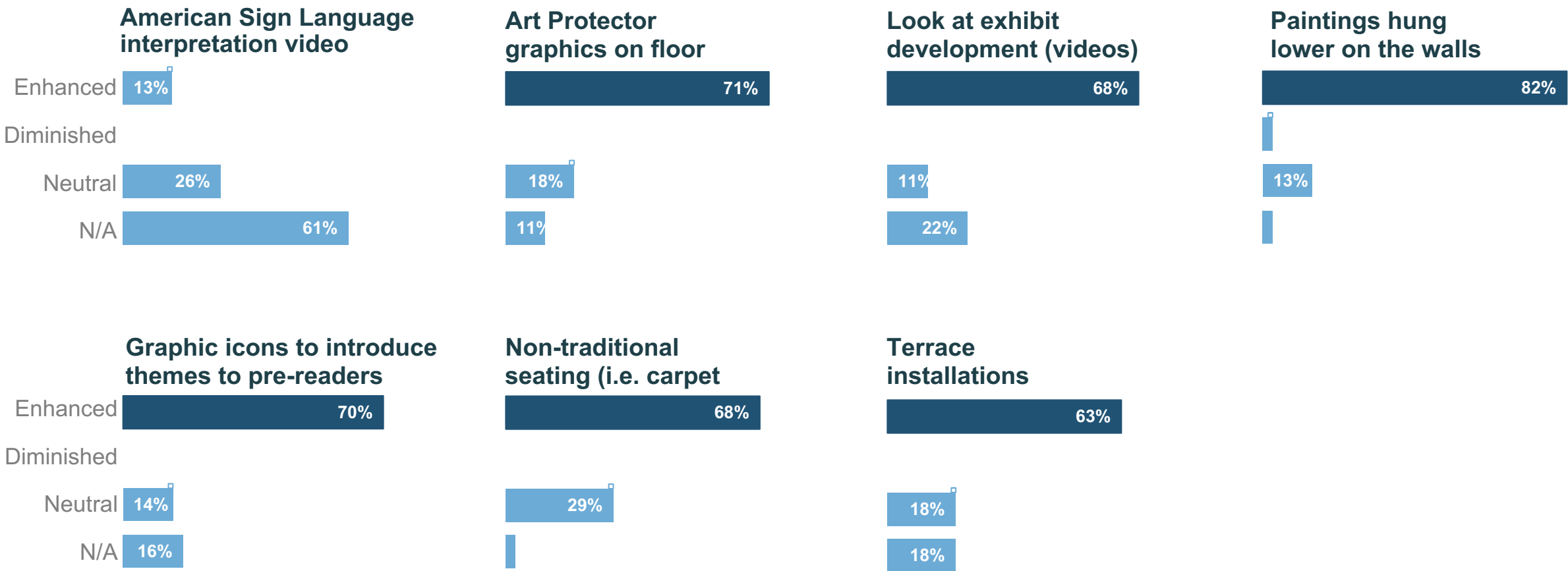
Visitors Without Children

Only Phase 2 Data

Summative Evaluation Report

The new features added as a part of this exhibition enhanced the experience of visitors with children.

In Phase 2, the negative was added to see if it was more than just noticing the new features and to clear up any confusion with the question. Respondents could now choose Enhanced my experience, Diminished my experience, Neutral and N/A (for those who did not notice the feature).



An abstract collage background featuring various elements: a hand holding a yellow paper on the right, a red and orange paper with a signature in the center, a green paper with a blue arrow on the left, and a large, crumpled red and pink fabric-like material on the far left. The overall composition is layered and colorful.

Visitors Without Children

Interviews Summaries

Summative Evaluation Report

Interview 1

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
3 adults	Thoughts about an exhibit co-curved by kids	I guess, I don't know if at ease is the right word, it put you at ease to interpret it in a more free flowing way than it should mean this or that, [kids] are very upfront about how they interpret art, so it allows you that freedom.
2 women, 1 man		It was cool that like they had their quotes of like what they were saying is it kind of centered the kids. I know sometimes when you're a kid and you're in a museum you kind of feel like, wow, this is so much that right now, so overwhelming, so it was kind of nice it is focused on them and how they're interpreting.
1 woman from Longmont, 2 visiting from Arizona		It was a lot less stuffy than other museums.
Older woman, younger relatives in town on a layover		
Non-members	Did kid's quote influence your thinking	When I was looking at how the kids were interpreting it, I was kind of thinking about if I saw the same thing, what would I say? I would look at it and think like oh, this is what I thought, and then look at what they thought. There was one that they said looked like a shark. And I was thinking, I did kind of look at it and think of the ocean, so, I was like, shark, that's kind of interesting.
First time at the museum		It was cool to see another perspective, especially like a younger, like an imaginative perspective.
Did not know exhibit was co-curved by kids		
	Paintings hung at a lower level	I think that would be really cool as a kid though. Because when you're a kid you are always looking up, trying to figure out like how to see this when you're so small. So, it's kind of cool to make it like accessible to the kids.
	What you would tell friends about exhibit	Also great for kids, like if you have kids and you want to get them into art, like if you had a friend who had a kid, I would recommend that this would be a place. Or like a field trip I could see this being like a fun like field trip. But also, for adults right, either way, just like definitely a cool, I feel like it's fun for everyone.

Interview 2

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 adults	Paintings hung at a lower level	I liked that everything was hung lower so that little kids can see it. I thought that was a pretty cool. I thought it was cool they did that and that they told us that that was what was happening.
1 woman, 1 man		
Visiting from Chicago, both in their 20s	Thoughts about an exhibit co-curated by kids	Well, I think it's really lovely. Obviously, the way kids choose something is different from the way we would, right. But I think that instinctive selection still has a lot of cool value that it's really different than curators selecting a selection of art and arranging it.
Non-members		
First time at the museum	Reactions to kid's interpretations	Yeah, no I think it's really fun to see how children react so differently, they are not as conditioned as we are right. I feel like it's often like a sense of obligation or pressure to make a lot of meaning of a piece of art. It's really lovely, for me, just for me to sit with art and look at it have that experience. I think it's fun to see the way a little kid makes meeting of it. I'm sure they had seen a news story on forest fire recently.
Did not know exhibit was co-curated by kids		There was one on the other side of where the really small pieces were, there was a quote for the kid about liking that they felt small compared to a lot of pieces here. I don't know if that changed how I thought about it, but it definitely made me like reflect that I had also been thinking that, or I realized that I had also been thinking that.
		For me it [kid's interpretations] like magnified it, so it was like looking at especially the Big Blue one, was like this was a huge canvas and I then I think like the difference in scale is even bigger if you are half my height. That must be the same experience, but you know a lot more.
	What you would tell friends about exhibit	I think it's cool. I haven't seen a lot of like community curated art, especially in a gallery like this. I've seen community art and I've seen curated art; I haven't seen community curated art. So that's really cool to see that in a more mainstream place.
	Creativity	I really, really appreciated the projectors and all the tools that were just there. Because, even if someone hands me a colored pencil, I don't know where to start. Something that already has some shape it already has some [inaudible] and I can combine it, that's like it's like a lot easier to play.

Interview 3

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 female	Returning to exhibit	Yeah, I think we'll actually be coming back this weekend...But then when we got here and we realized it was, uh, a lot of it was geared toward the younger mind and children that excited me as well because I have a 2 1/2-year-old and a ten-month-old. And my 2 1/2-year-old is very into art. We have our art cabinet, and she wants she has to get her art supplies out every morning and I was like what she wants to start her day with. So, in addition to seeing the art and having her first museum experience, I think it'll be really neat to go upstairs and do the The Little Artist Studio and some of the interactive stuff and to kind of experience in the textiles and some of the projections. I think that's really well done.
Visiting with mom, mom didn't participate in interview		
Mom of young child, is going to bring her kiddo back	Initials thoughts about an exhibit co-curated by kids	...And then when I went upstairs, I actually, sometimes when I'm in a museum environment, I don't actually stop and read everything. But today I did because I thought, OK, this is a different way of approaching the exhibit. This is a different way of thinking about it, and I'm glad I did because I thought that those placards were really well done, they were informative and I found it interesting because the questions that were asked, I thought were really excellent when geared toward children but also my mom and I enjoyed them too because it was just a little thought provoking and some kind of a different lens. And so, we were able to kind of bounce the questions off of each other and ask each other what our thoughts were as well. And so, while I guess geared toward the younger audience, it actually, I thought, was really great for all ages.
Did not know exhibit was co-curated by kids		I think it actually I think my response was more of an appreciation for the younger mind because there were some things upstairs, I didn't know like, how children how the child brain that's working when they see art or you know how they're looking at art, and I watched the video where the kids were responding in different ways, they were reaching for things, or they were staring at things. You know, I've been really committed to reading to my children and to putting art supplies into their hands, for example. But I've been less committed to maybe showing them art and exposing them to art above and beyond the art that they're creating. And so, I think that it just made me take a step back and appreciate how their minds work a little bit and appreciate the capacity that they have to view art starting at such a young age, because I don't think that that's something that I really realized, and I'm not sure that a lot of people maybe.
		I think art is so subjective, so I think sometimes when I see some of the more academic or some of the more formal you know context or copy on an artist, sometimes I kind of tune out a little bit and I'm more about how it makes me feel or you know what I see, and I think it was interesting looking at it from perspective. I also think that anytime you can make something, just feel more relatable and more understandable, more human, more digestible I, I don't think that's a bad thing.
	Approaching art differently	It makes your brain work differently and then it changes the things that you see, so there were some of the abstract paintings that if the question up there you know, how does this make you feel, or what are you seeing?, hadn't been up there, she might have just looked at it and kept walking, and the same with me. I probably definitely would have looked at it and kept walking, but it made us stop and actually talk about it.

Interview 3 continued

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 female	Reactions to kid's interpretations	I think probably specifically in the gallery that was focused on color, some of the comments on color just really recognizing how color and emotion or so connected, and how when children see certain colors have evokes different feelings and different emotions in them. Also, there is a quote specifically, around a child who saw a painting that made him think about a wildfire that he had seen on TV, which was just kind of a reminder that children are always paying attention and that they're seeing things happening in the world that you may not even know that they're seeing and they're feeling them, and you know they're resonating with them in different ways, so I think that was that stood out to me. And then the room with I think the nickname for it was Big Blue, I stayed there for a while and I sat and looked at it and thinking about three of those paintings together equal to a prehistoric shark, right? So just thinking about that like, wow, I never would have thought about that and that takes your mind to different places and then that journey, if you see the art but then what does that make you think of next and how do those thoughts then kind of go together and kind of evolve?
Visiting with mom, mom didn't participate in interview	Sparked conversation within group	She enjoyed it a lot, she was like I'm really enjoying these questions and I'm actually responding to that that I'm actually asking myself and their questions that I wouldn't have thought of if they hadn't been up, you know, in front of me. And she, you know she has a very smart when it comes to art. She's well versed, she's been to a ton of galleries and museums, and she has a home full of art and she's, so I would definitely say that she probably more knowledgeable and educated than, not probably, she is definitely is more knowledgeable and educated than me when it comes to art. And so, I think like just taking a little bit of a more fun approach and looking at it from a different lens was enjoyable for her as.
Mom of young child, is going to bring her kiddo back		
Did not know exhibit was co-curved by kids	Thoughts about bringing kiddo	I think, hopefully finally, we'll learn her favorite color. Because so far, it's all the colors and she wants to get out all the colors and I think I know what her favorite color is based on what she's drawn to, but I would like to have a conversation about color with her and that was something my mom brought up as well. Yeah, I think maybe some of the feeling questions you know, How does this make you feel? You know, it's our first trip, it's going to be a little bit of what's happening at the moment and a little bit reactive to how she's engaging with the artist. But definitely some good questions and some of the color questions.
		Yeah? And I think it's a bit of a learning experience, because you know after this first experience, you know what can we do next and how can we start to deepen the conversation from here, or how can we add more experiences to, you know, to our outings? How can we focus more of our outings, around art, etc. Yeah, and so I think it just grows from there.

Interview 4

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 male, 20s, Latino, from Texas	Thoughts about kid's perspectives	I thought that was really cute, especially with seeing like, uh, from like from what grade level they were at. There was one about I think was a black car specifically about how he like thought that it was old and shiny and all that stuff. To me that's really cute and like you said I've never seen that before in the museum where kids actually like got to kind of put their own opinion or their own like spin on it. So, I thought that was really cute, so I liked it a lot.
Visiting with partner, who did not participate in interview		
First time to the Museum	Look at art differently	That changed for me a lot, because at least sometimes I don't know how to think about a painting. So especially when you think of a kid's perspective on it that can kind of lead in the same direction as the kid, or maybe taking the complete opposite direction. Just say hey, well they thought of it this way, but I'm thinking about kind of more like maybe more literal or just a completely different light. So, I like that.
Did not know about the work of Clyfford Still or the exhibit		
	Paintings hung at lower level	So, I thought that was really cool that it was more, I guess, catered to a kid's height level and so that the kids can actually see the full painting.
	Information on label (emotions)	More is when I read it, then I kind of got into that perspective, because when I first looked at it I said I was just kind of I guess more or less I want like more abstract of a painting, so when I read that description, that kind of led to another new like deeper meaning of the painting.
	Creativity in light box area	I can connect it with the colors one because I definitely used more red and orange to kind of, for me, red means more love than angry, so putting that red color over the heart for me was more of like, oh I love you. And then he uses the variety of colors, so I can't say what he was thinking, but for me I definitely can connect it back to the colors and the emotions and all that kind of stuff.

Interview 5

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom with 1 year old Had attended Art Crawl	Changes to perception of kids and art	...we've always been an art family, but it makes me even more like wanting to do more with them and wanting to make sure that we have supplies at home and that we engage with it, and we talk about all these things in books, but I would think too for other people that haven't necessarily had that experience before, that it's really it makes it so much more approachable, right?
Repeat visitor	Interactions in gallery	Well today it was very exciting. She we were looking at the faces and talking about the parts of the face which you know we do a lot when we're reading books and stuff, but today for the first time she pointed to her nose and touched her nose when we were talking about Clyfford Still's self portrait, of all things. I was like there's this nose and mommy's nose and his nose, and your nose and she points at her nose and that was the first time she did that. And then she loves fish. So, it was really interesting today when we were up there and trying to like look at shapes and talk about what they were there were some of the paintings that have kind of like some white and some orange or yellow that are sort of like almost triangular looking. And she kept saying fish. Because that was her third word. So, she kept saying fish, fish, fish and I thought that was so interesting.
Knew exhibition was co-curated by children From Littleton		So it's really, really special to get to have that and then just to get to see what she's interested in...to see what she kind of goes towards and what gets her like really excited, because she's pretty even keeled, so if she starts to like kick or really vocalize, I pay attention...she loves like put yourself like the colored cellophane there, it's like, OK, you really like this texture and you really like these bright colors, you like seeing how these colors work. It's like hey, that makes me like turn something on in my brain of like OK then I need to make sure that we're talking about that we're playing with this kind of texture looking at colors. So, it definitely I get kind of this insight into her too, which is really, really special and yeah, and just having like some time with her is like so good for me.

Interview 5 continued

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom with 1 year old	Approaching art differently	Yeah, absolutely, again like just taking that time to really look at things and look at them more slowly and work through a painting and see all the colors and see all the details that you might miss as an adult when you're just kind of cruising by, so that's just so fun to get to share that with her because she really does make me see things that I wouldn't have even looked at or like, she'll point at like the tiniest fraction of a bright color where you're like, oh, I've looked at this painting 20 times and I hadn't seen that before. So, it's really, really special to get to sort of see it through her eyes in that way, even though I mean she's one tomorrow, so she's obviously not fully verbal, but I could tell when she's trying to like latch onto and see and that she gets excited about.
Had attended Art Crawl		
Repeat visitor	More kid related programming	It's really it really, like some of my friends are like doing at the Art Museum in the Clyfford Still Museum with your girls like, you don't understand, like there are so many ways to engage your kiddos with art, so it's something that I'm, you know, I'm trying to share with my friend group too, like bring your kiddos in. Like the zoo is amazing, the Museum of Nature and Science is amazing, but think a little bit broader too, because there are experiences for kids everywhere and seeing museums embrace children just makes me so happy. It's like instead like, this is a museum, so you're supposed to be quiet, it's like this is a place to look at things and engage with things and here is a space where you can touch. Here is a space you can observe.
Knew exhibition was co-curated by children		We were talking upstairs, some other families about programming as well, something that's more toddler focused or more like kindergarten, you know, kind of and, and so my other daughter too can come. And I mean she comes, we come with her as well, but have something that's more special for her too and like talking about what that looks like for preschoolers and that would be so awesome too. And then you know having her grow with it, she turns 1 tomorrow and I'm, like oh, this technically says through 14 months, but if there's one in August when you're 15 months, we're going to sneak on it because it's been really special.
From Littleton		

Interview 6

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 man	Children's creativity	Well, yeah, the quotes, that's what he [Still] says. You know he didn't ask you what he thought of the painting and why he painted it, but what you thought of it and to get to know the person through the imagery, because I mean what goes between your eyes and your brain and then comes back out. He's own individual, so and the thing with kids, you know and before language, I mean that that's an interesting thing.
Did not know exhibit was co-curved by kids		Well, yeah, I mean because they just blurt it out. I don't tend to do that. I you know I'm an adult and I don't think that way. I mean then that's why we need each other. We need kids around all the time.

Interview 7

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
3 adults	Thoughts about kid's perspectives	For me, I think it was, in a way, something which I admire, from the eyes of a child, how they perceive art in a very different way from how we perceive. Yeah, they seem to view it as something that is more clean and unadulterated, whereas the adults we tend to look at it in a more complicated fashion, so they see as it is, and they and they just say it.
3 kids (9,13,15)		Yeah, I think it's very cute that you have like little insertions of what kids think about that. It makes it more relatable for that.
Visiting from Singapore, English as second language		
Did not know exhibit was co-curated by kids	A new way of curating art	In Singapore, where we come from, there's always a children's art festival around June, or October. There's like specific exhibits catered to kids...Yeah, well, I think we have, they don't really feature extract from what kids actually express or comment, but they are but the displays are mainly tailored for the younger audience. Yeah, but having them give comments, actually yeah, think through what they're seeing. Even the name and age of each child, yeah, I've never seen it.
	Labels cued noticing	I like the part where they said that when you are born, children are attracted to high contrast. Yeah, so I looked around myself and I felt like I was also attracted to the higher contrast. So, I started to notice the contrast in that particular section.
		I liked how it was organized, I think, very few museums organize things that make it known to the viewer of yeah, they're organizing this by color, and it's very obvious and we're organizing this by scale at the big field painting. So that was interesting, I think how the museum was laid out.

Interview 8

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE	
2 females	Initial reaction to premise of show	My first impression is super favorable, I'm a former educator and former art history major and I loved the melding of the two worlds, I think that so much of the time art is, you know, on a top shelf that's unreachable by kids. So, to me it's great, it's really cool.	Tulsa
1 Denver, 1 Tulsa		I'm going to be honest; I'm going to be honest I was like, ugh. I am not an educator, but I'm a parent so, at 1 point had little kids, you know, but I am an adult. But I was just kind of, I don't love this. And then when we got upstairs, I was like, oh, this is fine. Like I'm not really being impacted by this unfavorably.	Denver
1 repeat, 1 first time		All that being said, having been here many times, I mean, if I hadn't known that it was curated, co curated by children and then this was more of a child focus exhibition I wouldn't have known. If they hadn't said anything at the front desk, I would have had no idea.	Denver
Did not know exhibit was co-curated by kids		But I think even, maybe I'm just really dumb, but if she hadn't mentioned at the front desk that this was co-curated by children and that it was more child focused, I don't know that I even would have questioned it when I was reading these narratives, I just would have thought, well, this is an interesting twist now that they're asking me to look at these paintings in this way. I am so clueless.	Tulsa
	Reaction to label "directives"	[Feared] That the exhibit would kind of be dumbed down for kids, and I did of, what was I complaining about on the stairs, because I literally, it was something about like a lot of the descriptions where it's saying, What was the one that I was, like look at the three paintings, and See, you know how the change from how he painted this man to this man, and I'm like oh I kind of hate that. Because I think no matter if you're if you're 60 or if you're 11, you should be able to look at a piece of artwork and just like figure out for yourself what you want to be seeing without being directed. Oh, well do you see a face in this? Oh, well, now I see a face because you told me that I'm supposed to see a face in it. Again, my brutal honesty. But, yeah, I guess it's an interesting point, because obviously with the namelessness of the pieces, there's some tension here for it to be a discovery process, so although I don't think guiding kids to start thinking in that direction is a bad thing because you know in the future, they could come back to a dynamic space like this and see a different piece and say, well now I notice people looking for something.	Denver
		Right and that being said, after I read that I'm like, well, I'm not going to read anymore of this stuff because I started reading and I'm like this is like not what I'm used to reading when I come to Clyfford Still. I see, yeah, oh that's because it's for children, but I don't want to read this children directive.	Denver
		I felt like this was a good melding, and Mary might disagree, I liked the directive and I like the etiquette directives as well, you know where to stand because stuff is not often taught like, you know it's just something you just kind of understand. Some museums are super interactive and somewhere you kind of have to figure it out.	Tulsa
		My feel for art is that there is no right answer, let's just explore, but I do recognize that like some minds do well with a little more direction.	Tulsa

Interview 8 continued

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE	
2 females	Reaction to label "directives"	Well, and I'm thinking about this artist in particular I think there's an importance in expressing to people that there is an intention in art and it is there's that confidence, that this form might seem simplistic but it is intentional and it is what it is, and the artist made it to be perceived in that way in its fullness. So sometimes I think, I mean, even adults, we've all seen them go through a gallery like this and I'm like OK this is chicken scratch and I could have done this. So maybe directing kids towards that cognizance of intentionality in art is a good thing.	Denver
1 Denver, 1 Tulsa		I I think you know, as an educator, you always talk about like exposition and explaining your explanations, and I think there's no harm, and I mean, I'm sure there's great benefit in showing some other appears thoughts, you know whether or not they're right, they don't have to necessarily, wasn't some deep feeling, it can be totally mundane and so at least show that that is a process.	Tulsa
1 repeat, 1 first time			
Did not know exhibit was co-curated by kids	Place for children in museum	When I think of a museum back home that's brilliant and I love it and they use there's a lot of very child centric components of the museum, even though it's largely like Renaissance art and sculpture, and everything is always separate, but there's always an invitation for adults to create as well, which I think makes it, I think it makes children feel like they're not being sequestered to the kiddy space, you know, they're not at the kids table and that their parents can be in or whatever guardians and friends and family can come in and create with them, or even weirdos like us who want the projection. But I have also been to museums where the integrity of the museum is affected, and you feel like Oh well, this isn't what I'm frankly paying for, like I wanted to see this piece and I was just like, children's art, like the second grade classroom took over. So as far as this I was happy with it.	Tulsa
		As always, this was a great experience in this museum because this is such a great museum. Yeah, I'm like I'm circling around now and really feeling like I do love the way they've done this because I remember years and years ago when my kids were little we would go to the Denver Art Museum where they had some like little Kids corner, which is a little bit like the creator space, but I always felt like it kind of more wanted you to keep your kids in this little safe space and not the real art where this is wonderful because you're inviting kids to just be artists, to learn from the art and it is this is, I think, something the work here is something that really can appeal to really young kids because it is just so bold that you know they can get it right away.	Denver

Interview 9

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 female	General thoughts on exhibit	Well, I really enjoyed the way that the art is organized in terms of earlier in Clyfford Still's life and being able to see the transformation of his art over time and the particular exhibit today, I really liked because it was through the eyes of children and it was fun to kind of to go back and look at art in a way that a child would. It's great [to see] what [they] would notice. I really enjoyed that.
Chicago		
Did not know exhibit was co-curved by kids	General thoughts on kids and abstract art	I haven't really thought about it, but I actually feel like kids would be the right audience for abstract arts. Because they don't necessarily have an expectation of what they're looking for in a certain type of painting. I think they can just react to arts very genuinely, and I think it's great that hopefully this attracts more kids and schools to actually bring younger kiddos to look at abstract art.
Repeat visitor to museum		
	Look at art differently	There was I remember a little description about color where a young boy mentioned that blue it made him feel very happy and then it went on to describe how as adults, we tend to associate colors with emotions that children don't necessarily share those same associations. You know? So that made me kind of look at that painting again and consider that it is more of a happy painting as opposed to more of a calming thing.
		OK also with the Big Blue painting the huge blue one, I think the description was about like sea creatures, so they could be making that up, but OK, let's it kind of take a second and, no, it was. I sat down and looked at it and imagined that and that was kind of fun because I had seen that painting before, but I didn't look at it with that perspective.
	Labels cued noticing	I guess my response was how fun for kids. And then as I continued, I started kind of thinking about the questions myself. So yeah, I did kind of stop and think about those and that it's kind of a different way of thinking like that's not something you would normally do is ask yourself a question as you're looking at it. Absolutely no. Especially if I am kind of wandering in my own, I wouldn't do that. But when prompted, I kind of enjoy thinking about it.

Interview 10

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 male, 1 female	Kids and art	And yeah, you've got a good overview of his work and the different times of how he started, especially with the introductory video, it's perfectly long. And what I really liked is the places for children to try and to reflect the art, color is to lose their – they just do art and are not too impressed and think they can't do it and are not good enough, they just do it, here are the colors.
From Germany		
English as second language	Creativity	In light box area [speaker changes every statement, back and forth]: Just, just for free. Playing, having fun. And also yeah, trying to do nice colors together. And shapes. And inspired by his work in this course. Yeah yeah, yeah. Yeah, that's so fun.
First time visitors		
Did not know about the work of CS or the exhibit	New approach	We've seen things in like at Tate where kids are encouraged to paint and get involved, but not to curate. When my daughter was small, we always took something to draw to a museum and it was a lot of fun, but there was not, in Munich, where we're from, there wasn't a museum at that time who had these children's programs. Now it has changed. There are programs for schools or smaller children but, not like here. That was specially really playground with all the and it's more integrated in the museum.
	Thoughts about kid's perspectives	And right from the beginning one, each room had a theme or sentence done by a 5 th grader, by a child, yeah. So that was nice to see the artworks rule the eyes of children like the Big Blue thing, they compared it to a big animal or whale. I kept it, I kept it in my mind. Then yeah, and a little bit because I we were standing there in front of this blue... [next speaker] Yeah, I was already impressed by the item already... [first speaker] Yeah, but the painting had this character of this blue big thing animal, so yeah, I like the sentences and ideas of kid's impressions.
	Kids and art museums	The children should not be excluded from these places, you can't say, oh, it's far too intellectual for the children to understand now, that they get what they want out of it. We tend to over intellectualize. Right, and sometimes it breaks it down the impression of a kid and the view of kids makes it more, simple in a good way.

Interview 11

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 male Did not know exhibit was co-curved by kids	Thoughts about labels	<p>Yeah. I love the rainbow room. I loved the explanations. They had questions on the labels, I thought the questions were good. And there were some quotes from kids that I thought were fun to think about, like about the size of them, for instance.</p> <p>It did cue me that I should be thinking about stuff, and I would say in general I didn't connect with a lot of the art. Which is OK. But it was nice to be prompted to try to, yeah.</p> <p>Yeah, and the questions also did that same. They made you think a little deeper about things.</p>
	Kid's perspectives	<p>Well, the paintings were arranged in rainbows purple all the way through yellow. All the colors. There's one painting in there that had one of the students, one of the children's descriptions of it was like a forest fire that he saw, and I thought that was cool. Yeah, just being surrounded by all those colors these.</p> <p>It was more about what the kids were reacting to. Yeah, those pictures could have been by anybody, but it was a it was a fun expert final experiment little palate cleanser.</p>
	New approach	<p>Well, I didn't know what to expect, what happened. Because I've seen a lot of shows that are curated by adults but never seen adult art curated by children, by kids, so I thought, I wonder what's going to happen.</p> <p>I would say the reasoning that went into the curation was more emotional than intellectual, more playful as opposed to, well, you do have a whole set up there that are in historical order that I assume that wasn't part of that. Yeah, I could tell. So, they're different. So yeah, things were just a little bit less organized, which I thought was most beautiful.</p> <p>Well, let's see. I don't know. You said I what I would I say, but I know that I wouldn't say that I felt like I was seeing it through a child's eyes. I felt like it was seeing it from a different angle like curators tend to have a way of doing things, and this kind of takes it out of that box. And so, you get, it's not behind the scenes, but it's looking at things from a different angle and less continuity so more....What's the word? Drawing a blank here on the word.</p>
	Creativity	<p>I mean, I do experiments like that a lot, so that wasn't that new, but it was nicely done. Nice materials there. I also work in audio and video, so the screens need to be brighter, but I know that's expensive. Yeah, the color is very fun. It went nicely with the Rainbow Room.</p>

Interview 12

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 male	General thoughts about exhibit	I think it's a great idea, and I mean engaging parents and children and grandparents and children, and it makes them think about art. I think it's wonderful.
1 female		Well, I've started watching the Netflix series Babies. And you're talking about the first one is what babies know and their first born, and this feeds right into that and shows that babies are much more aware of what's going on and see things much more than adults originally thought. They just can't vocalize it, they can't say it, but they can tell you what they like, and I like the videos that showed the babies picking up different pictures.
Repeat visitors		
Denver based	Paintings hung lower	Yeah, and I like the fact that the paintings are put lower so children can see him, but it also gives adults a different perspective. Instead of looking everything set at 5 feet 6 inches.
Did not know exhibit was co-curved by kids		I didn't notice, to me they work that way. It was all good, they're big paintings and either way it's they're just big paintings.
	Kid's perspective	It's just another way to think about them. OK, you know, I tend to just look at the paintings and it was just helpful. Another way of thinking about them.
		It was really interesting how the children looked at the art differently than the adults. They saw things differently, and some I remember, I think, was one a second grader, he saw that as positive where they said blue tends to be more negative for adults and so.
		I did look, we looked at some of the paint to see what the kids are looking at, see what they saw. I mean the, Big Blue one with the line down it's I mean it's always fascinated me anyway and how the kids interpreted and seemed to really like that one more than a lot of the other one. It was interesting.
		Every time I come because they're not labeled and he [Still] didn't say what he was seeing, I'm trying to think about what he was saying. Maybe the children are way to pick up on, That I don't know. Because they do think that way, they have better imaginations.

Interview 12 continued

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 male	Kids and art	You know we have one son. He's 32 now, but it was very much a part of his life. We always went to the Art Museum and wandered in all kinds of sections he loved pre-Columbian things that I never. I didn't have a good understanding, but there I always appreciated seeing how we saw things, same with music, they hear different things.
1 female		And the thing is that you have to be geared towards children thinking about them. They're your future museum goers. I head a nonprofit for land conservancies and the big discussion is if you don't make open space and natural lands understandable to young people well are they going to be the ones that are going to be supportive at these things and they grow up, so you really have to be working hard to engage and I know you just have to. You just have to for your future support and audiences.
Repeat visitors		I think it's great. We have several friends that are having babies and we'll tell them to bring them, bring the babies here, babies don't get out early enough and I think just the research on babies and what the research here shows that babies are really interactive and to see how they can relate to it.
Denver based		Well, if anything, it helps because we used to bring our son when he was still in a stroller and I mean we weren't there long, but there's no reason why children can't see these things and very, very young children as well, so I hope you're doing your part to get these young people to support our museums.
Did not know exhibit was co-curved by kids	Light boxes	<p>Yes, I probably would have if sign had said play with. If I was three feet tall, I might have done it, but it was low to the ground.</p> <p>I was thinking about it as a great idea for children, just a great way to see shapes and colors and composition. I thought it was really nice.</p>

Interview 13

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom	YM led to membership	We have been here a few times. We got a membership; I think this spring and a big part of it was because of this particular exhibit.
1 girl, 2-year-old		Back before the pandemic I would come here on my own because I just really like this space and I love looking at the art. It's just such a peaceful place, and so when I heard they had an exhibit curated by and geared toward kiddos, I thought this would be a perfect time to introduce her to the world of museums and see what they had. So, after one visit, we've decided to become members.
Local		
Members	Mom can tell when daughter is engaged/interested	I can usually tell by body language I would say because she's pointing up. Like today, she'd noticed that colorful one right off of the elevator and kind of exclaimed, oh. And then we just kind of talked about colors and I said like blue, and she pointed. And then I was like, do you see green and then she looked over there and she pointed at another one.
Have been before		
Knew about the exhibit	What daughter is attracted to	Mostly the big paintings have been attractive, especially the one right outside the elevator. And she started, she likes to look at all the different colors. It's a little tricky with her because she wants to get really, really close. So, we've been reprimanded a couple times for crossing the line.
Only have about 2 minutes to chat		
Free Day	What they do in the museum	We haven't really had a chance to read the quotes. And we watched the video in the Maker Space. And I think she notices that there are children in it. I've noticed her looking. We did do the light, the light boxes a few times and she liked playing with all the different texture of those materials. But yeah, pretty much every time we mentioned the museum, she makes the coloring motion.

Interview 14

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom	Why came	I haven't been to this museum yet. I tried to come last time, but some of the other thing happened and I didn't. So, I wanted to know about what this museum is about, like the artwork and also, I just wanted to have like for him I wanted him to get out of the apartment. We go to the mini-Picasso class where he learns the artwork and all the artistic thing because I'm personally not a creative personality, so I I'm not good at that. So, I want him to explore.
1 son, 3-year-old		
First time	Why museum is important to her	Yes, it's great for him, because I just took him for the mini-Picasso class earlier, he was small for his age group, the other kids were older. Now he is learning and he's starting to put the elements together as part of that. So that's how he is learning, and I really appreciate that you provide this facility for kids because at home. We always think I want to do this, I want to do that, but that is not possible at home, right? When the atmosphere and the surrounding is created then automatically your mind does work that direction, so that's how I feel. Because sometimes we have creative ideas, but we don't, we have lack of materials. We don't know what material to be used. You have options, you just have to pick.
Asian American		
Mom showed me pictures of art he created in the makerspace on her phone	What son noticed	It was colorful, himself said it's a rainbow. So, he noticed that as he was going through and was, he speaking about it pointing getting excited. The other thing, the train-horse-cow I was trying to show him this look and to notice this, so he saw that. So that's something that he knows and then he could see it and say it's a train.
Short interview, kid needed to go		
Free Day		

Interview 15

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom 1 daughter, 2-year-old	How heard about it	There was a post on my Facebook mom’s group that talked about it, and I thought our school is closed this week, so we thought we'd come spend our morning here.
Local First time to CSM	Expectations	I don't know. I was a little bit concerned that it wouldn't be super kid friendly for her because she's a little bit little, you know. But I was pleasantly surprised. But it was great, she did fine.
First time to take child to an art museum Free Day	Interactions they had	<p>We, well, we've read the book Olivia, about a little pig and in that book, she goes to the Art Museum. So, we kind of talked about what that would be like, and they look at the painting and so in that book they talk about what they see, so we talked about what we see, and I asked her how it made us how us feel and what she saw in each painting. Which was fun to hear her responses.</p> <p>Yeah, yeah. She likes to sit. And in the book, they look, you know, they sit and look at the photos or paintings. And she did that.</p> <p>I think. You know, just being able to have conversations about the pieces was really nice. You know because I told her like, I see and, actually, some of the older children’s interpretations of one, talked about a fire, so we talked about and I said, oh, you know this one, this boy looked at this photo and said it looked like a forest fire and we talked about a forest fire and red and hot. And so that was a nice prompt to kind of have a jumping off point to talk about it. Instead of just saying oh it's red, it's yellow, you know, we talked about the next level, yeah, we could go a little bit deeper exactly.</p> <p>Yeah, I think so. We stopped at the high contrast one and we talked about, we have a baby coming, and we’ve talked before about how babies can't see very far and so we need to be expressive and close to the babies. So, we talked about that piece a little bit. So, that's kind of like connecting what's actually happening in her life with the art, right?</p> <p>This is her first time, other than when she was really tiny, we took her to the Van Gogh exhibit. [How did the experience go overall?] think it was good. Yeah, it was good. We had a little bit of a hiccup at the beginning with drinking water and getting too close to them [the artworks]. But we talked about rules and that painting needs space. We don't want to actually got too close. But I think it is also valuable to learn that. But yeah, we do the Children's Museum often, so she was like, oh we are going to a museum. And I was like not the Children’s Museum, we are going to the Art Museum today and so I think it piqued her curiosity and something different.</p> <p>[Has this experience given you more confidence to take her to other art museums?] Yeah, I think so. Yeah, because in my head I was like, oh, you know, after we will she's like 6 or 7 and can articulate a little bit better but she sat and looked at the paintings and you know, even if you can't say, oh this painting makes me feel, and I feel like it was still interesting for her to see such a big painting, she is still getting something out of it.</p>

Interview 16

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom, Molina	Why visited	The maker space actually brought us in, and they really enjoyed the like make your own art space. The first time that we came they didn't know about the makerspace. We learned about it last time and then we came back for it this time.
3 kids	What they liked	Tristan: I really like of art, like the different colors, all the colors.
4-year-old, Tristan		
6-year-old, Caroline		
8-year-old, Ellie		
Repeat visitors		Molina: Mine was probably the Big Blue one. I really like that one. That's one of my favorite colors and I just loved all of the different shades of blue. I also really liked one that was up in this corner, but I can't remember exactly what it was, but I like that you're just left to interpret all the paintings on your own there. He didn't leave like anything behind about how to interpret them and I think that's really cool. And that is what Ellie, and I were talking about too, how you are able to interpret the art however you want.
Free Day		

Interview 17

SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom	Why come	Daughter: To learn about art and the artist who did it. So, we came to the museum to look at Clyfford’s abstract and still life art.
1 daughter, about 13 year old		Grandfather: For me, this is something I have been wanting to do for a long, long time. My daughter has lived in Denver for a while and I’ve never come to see the museum even though every time I tell her I want to see the museum, because of its unique nature and characteristic and theme. I finally get this off my bucket list. And not only that, allow me to have the experience of sharing this exhibit with my granddaughter and that is something very special. I try to pass on some of my ideas to her so she's being passed the baton on to future generations.
1 grandfather		
Mom and daughter live in Denver	Expectations	Daughter: My expectation was to see abstract art and to try and like figure out what it is to you. What the abstract art is and learn about abstract art.
Grandfather lives in Arizona		
First time to CSM	What liked	Daughter: I liked the more realistic paintings. I liked the people who actually look like people. There was one with a street and lots of shops and buildings and things that looked realistic. And the landscapes. Because I feel like I could figure out what was going on. It made more sense to me. But I enjoyed the others, too. I also liked trying to figure out the other paintings, the abstract art.
Grandfather is big art lover, wanted to share his love of art with granddaughter	Figuring out on own	Mom: I enjoyed the bold colors. The more abstract stuff. Yeah, I think the use of color is you don't see too much color in in the world anymore, so it's nice to see. Large format color paintings.
Daughter answered most of the questions		
Asian American		Daughter: I felt happy looking at all the colors. I felt happy, like I felt appreciated to figure out what it was.

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SPEAKER	TOPIC	QUOTE
1 mom	Interactions	Daughter: We were definitely together, and we talked about like what feature was and what each of us thought it was or what we imagined it was.
1 daughter, about 13-year-old		
1 grandfather	Light boxes	Daughter: I feel like I put everything on there and it was abstract, and I didn't know what it was. [Did you take any inspiration from Clyfford Still's artwork?] Yeah, me and my mom were reading this thing about like the lifeline right and I used one of those screens as a lifeline.
Mom and daughter live in Denver		
Grandfather lives in Arizona	Thoughts on kids as curators	Daughter: I mean, they choose the more radiant colors and like the more contrasting colors. And I saw this video, I thought it was really interesting because they picked out of two artworks, it was cute. They respond to the more contrasting colors. [Does it make you think you could be part of a museum exhibit?] Yeah, yeah, maybe. Possibly.
First time to CSM		
Grandfather is big art lover, wanted to share his love of art with granddaughter		
Daughter answered most of the questions		
Asian American		