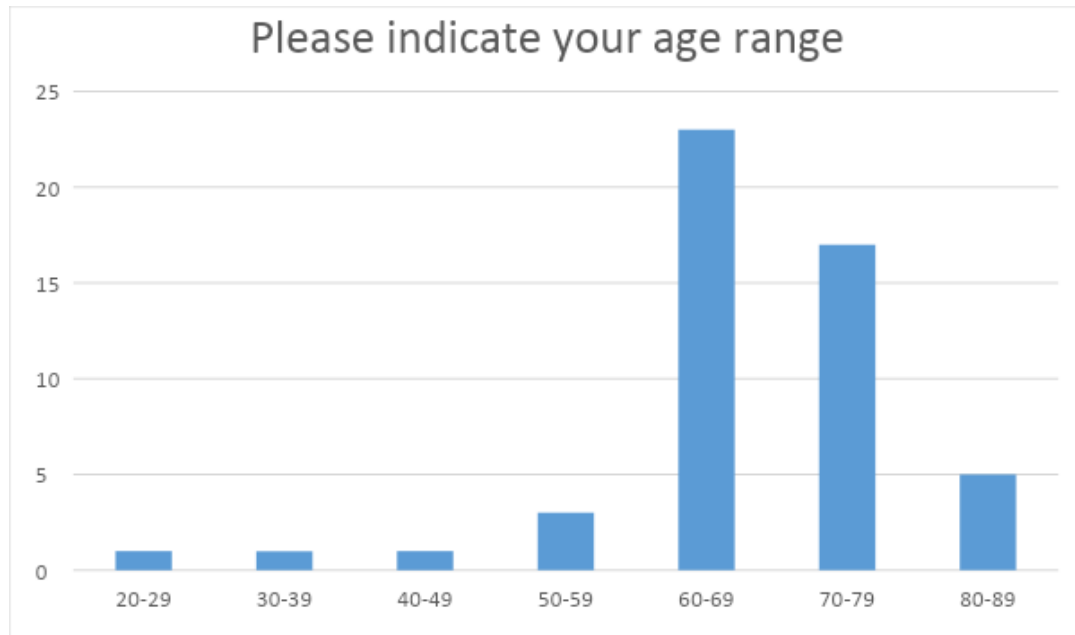


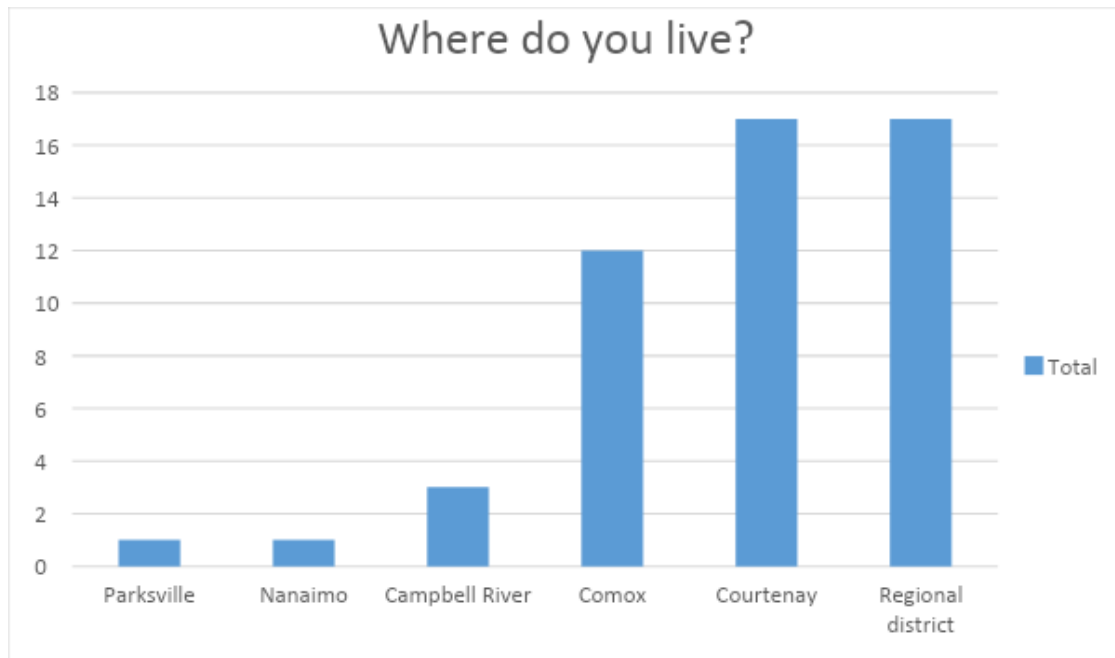
2023 Pearl Ellis Gallery Member Survey Results

51 Responses

1.



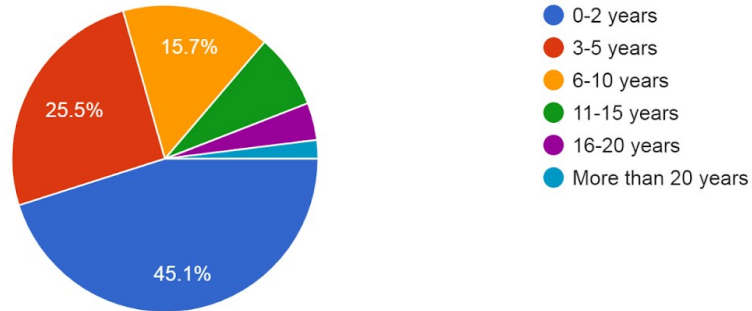
2.



3.

How long have you been a member of Pearl Ellis Gallery (PEG)?

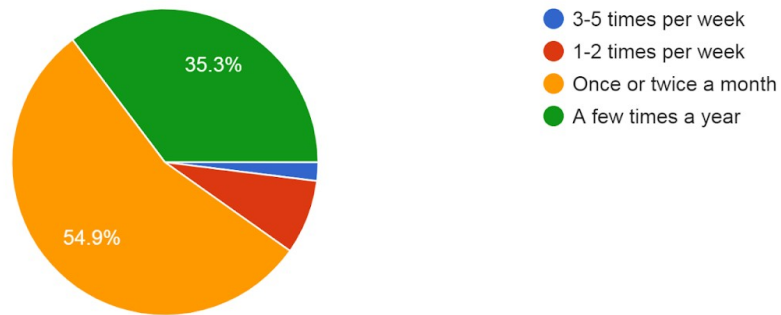
51 responses



4.

How often do you come to the gallery?

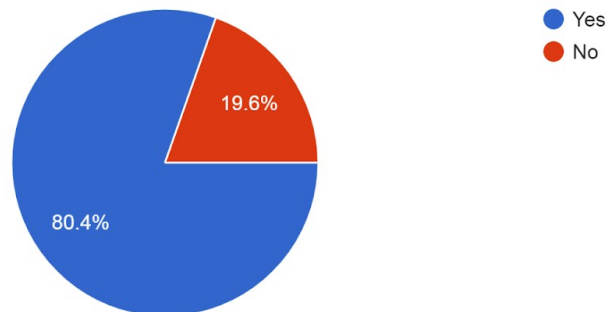
51 responses



5.

Have you ever exhibited your work in a Members Show?

51 responses



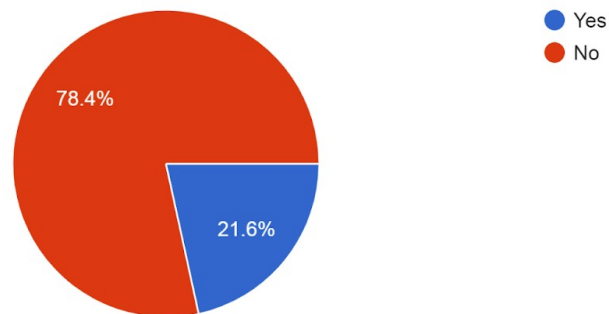
6.

If you have not exhibited work in a Members Show, why not? (Optional)	
1	not an artist - but a lover
2	don't think my work is good enough
3	Waited too long to respond...
4	Basically it is the driving time as usually the shows ask for only one piece.
5	Lack of theme.
6	Away during the entry time frame
7	I am not an artist
8	wasn't fast enough on getting my application in
9	Notification time is short. I am never fast enough to get my name in
10	Timing

7.

Have you ever exhibited your work in a Solo or Duo Show?

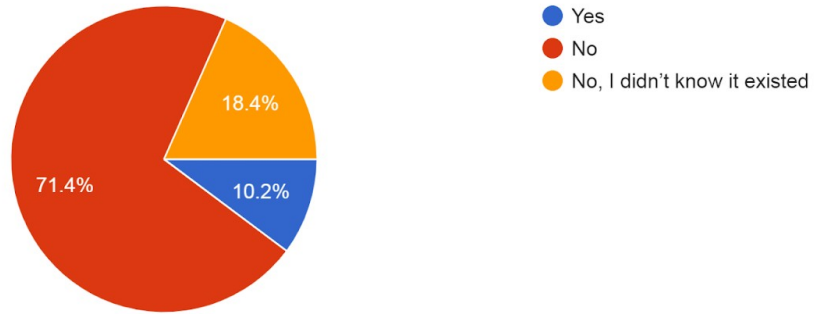
51 responses



8.

If you are interested in a Solo or Duo Show, did you apply for the March show using the online application form on our website?

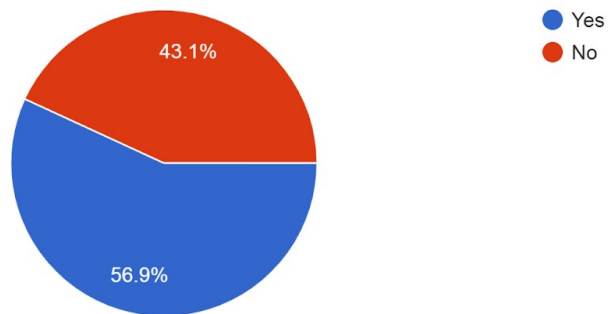
49 responses



9.

Have you ever displayed your work in the Comox Library or Comox Community Center?

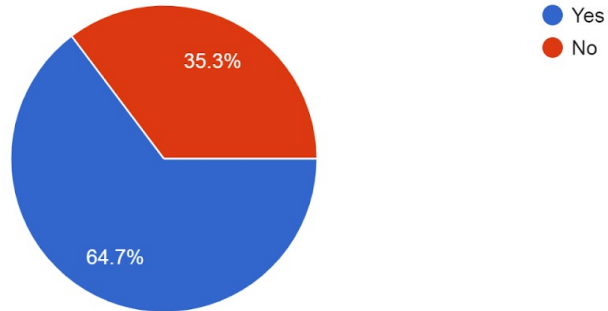
51 responses



10.

Are you interested in displaying work in the Comox Library or Comox Community Center?

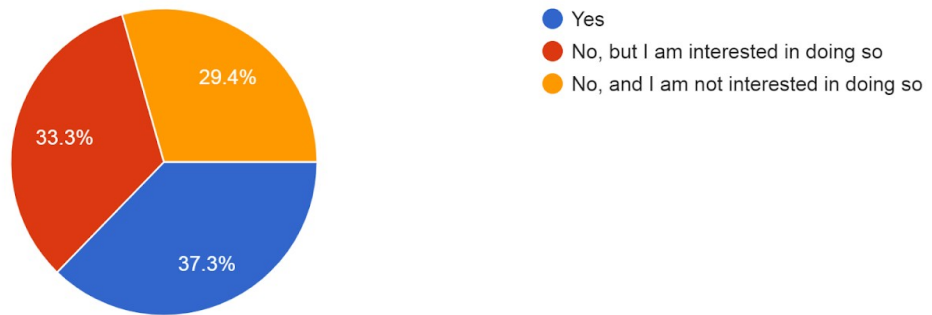
51 responses



11.

Are you displaying greeting cards at PEG?

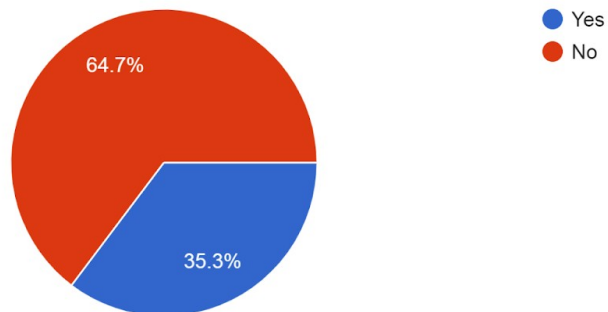
51 responses



12.

Have you ever attended a PEG workshop?

51 responses

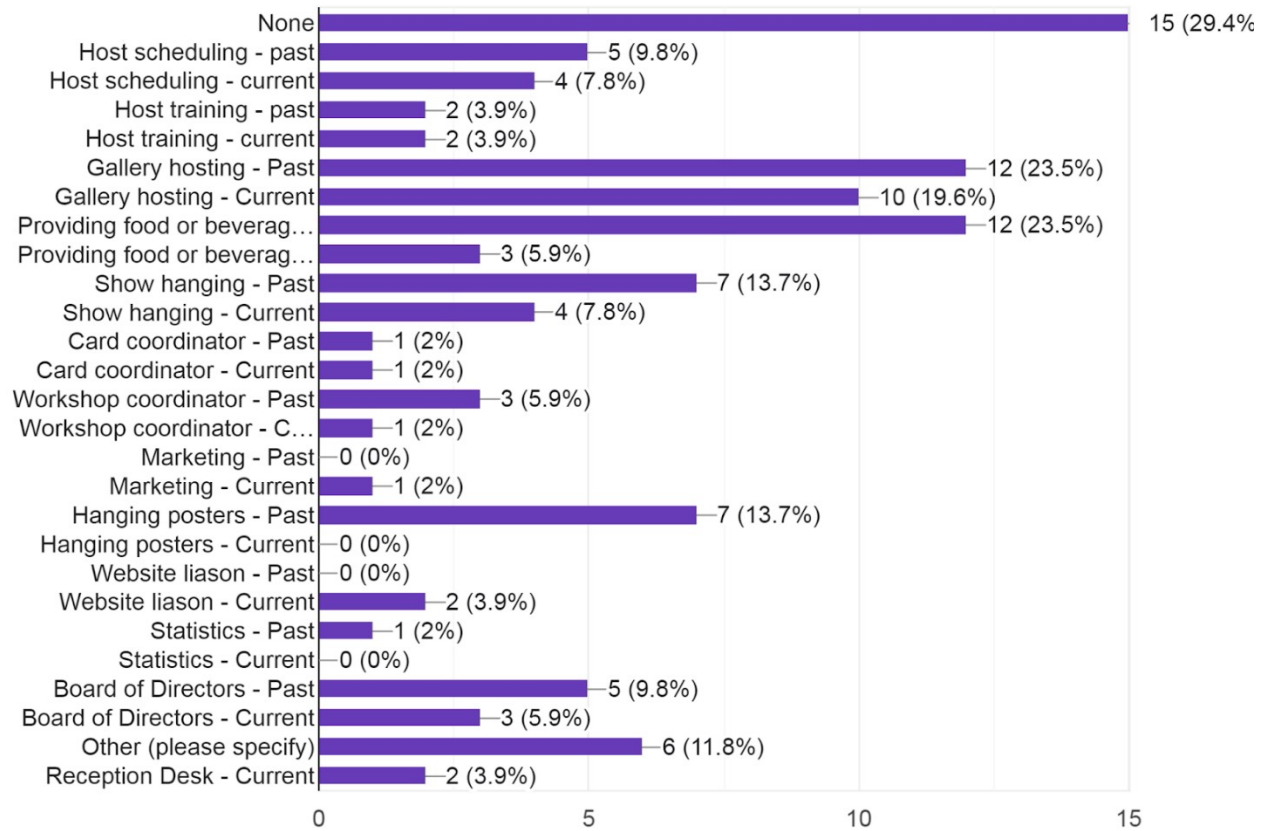


13.

We are currently accepting applications for facilitating workshops through our website, and have about seven workshops lined up right now. If you have any comments regarding workshops at PEG please add them here. (Optional)	
1	More short, inexpensive workshops please. And children's workshops!
2	keep them coming
3	How about some photography workshops?
4	If something interests me, I will consider. Not painting anymore.
5	Really enjoyed the Kate Bridger workshop especially interested in textile, mixed media, printmaking workshops. I wonder if Wendy Smith might be interested in doing a printmaking workshop I know she taught at MISSA this past summer.
6	Plein air workshops would be fun
7	I would be interested in participating to learn skills and meet other artists
8	I would like to do a workshop on Crits. ALL work benefits from a good crit. and I think doing one, say monthly would benefit artists. And yes i am willing to manage this.
9	Laurie Martz and myself used to coordinate workshops together, we would get sometimes get an artist educator in from out of town as we wanted to offer a change from what was already presented in the Comox Valley. I personally think that is still a good option besides the talents we have here in the valley.
10	I would suggest, to encourage membership, price the non-member fee slightly higher so paying the fee plus \$30 to join the gallery is less than the workshop fee alone. IE: member workshop fee \$100 non-member fee \$145 It's then cheaper for someone to join for \$30 and then buy the workshop. Tah dah, you have another member who may stay!
11	I'm a very new member and haven't had much interaction at the PEG yet

The gallery relies heavily on our wonderful volunteers in many different areas. Have you volunteered for any of the following at PEG? Check all which apply and please indicate past or current.

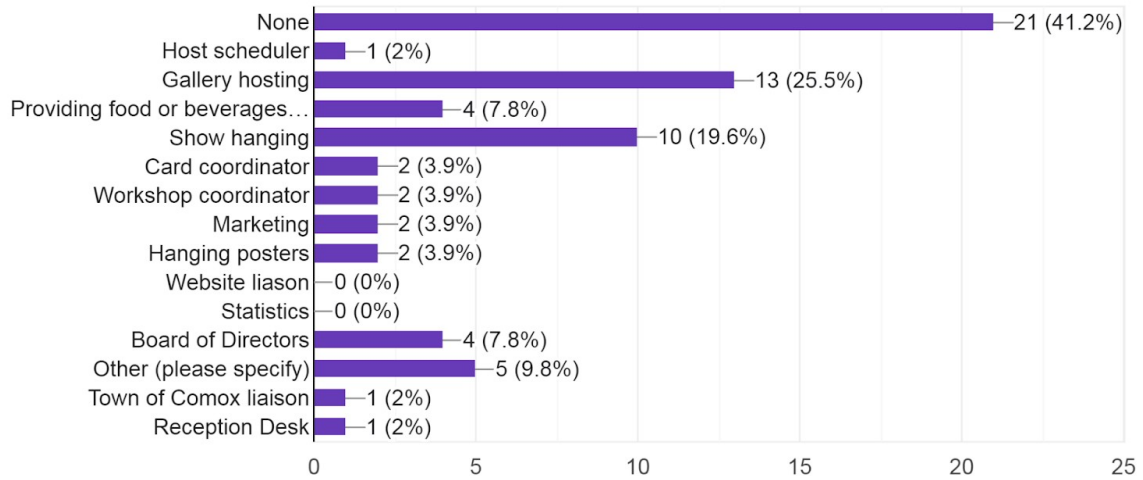
51 responses



15.

Would you be willing to volunteer for any of the following at PEG? Check all which apply

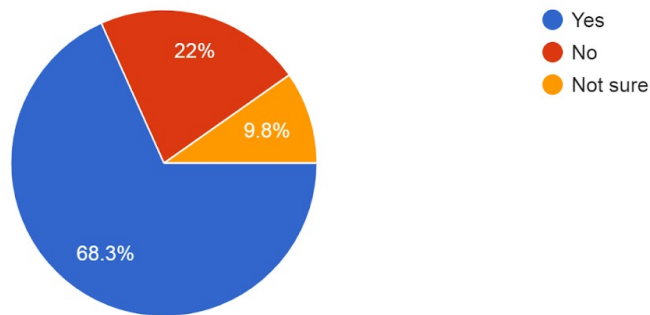
51 responses



16.

If you are on Facebook, have you "Liked" the PEG Facebook Page? (Optional)

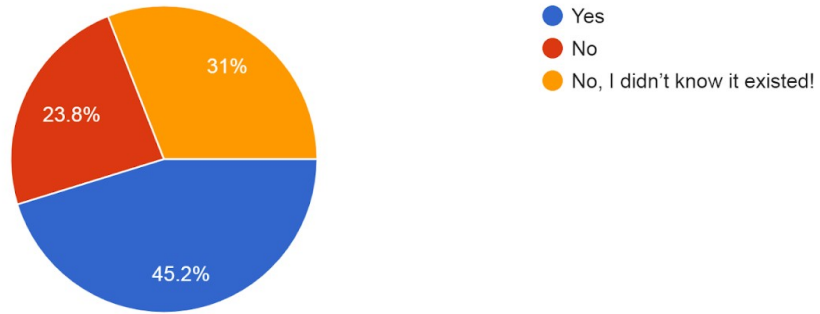
41 responses



17.

If you are on Facebook, have you joined the members only "PEG People" Facebook group?
(Optional)

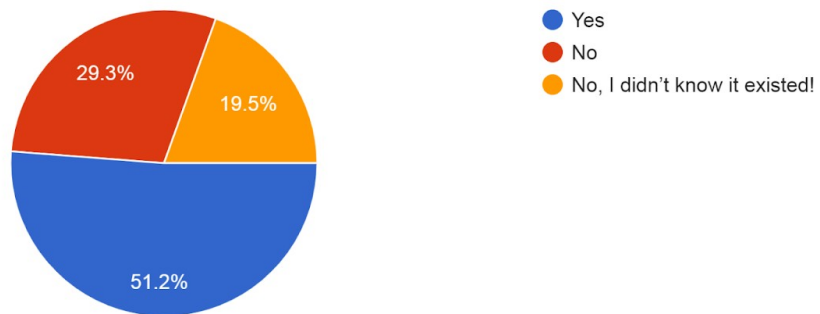
42 responses



18.

If you are on Instagram, are you following Pearl Ellis Gallery on Instagram? (Optional)

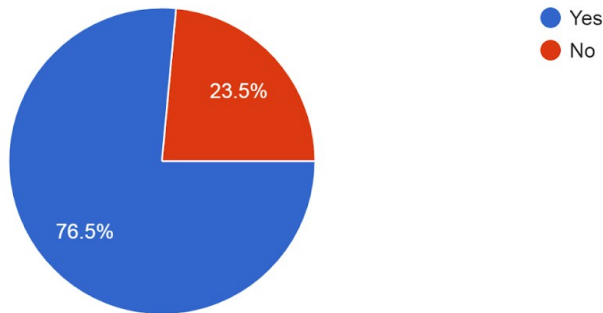
41 responses



19.

For the 2024 season we have added three concept shows: "Our Earth", "Identity & Expression", and "Art with Impact". Do you like the idea of concept shows?

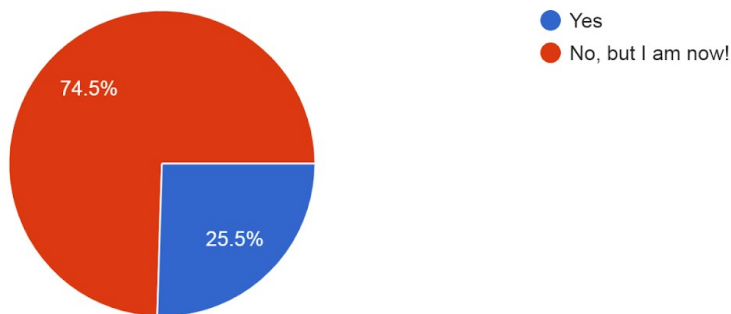
51 responses



20.

For our concept shows you may apply by describing to us what you plan to produce or submit a simple sketch. Your piece does not need to be comp... in order to apply for one of the concept shows?

51 responses



21.

Do you have any suggestions for future concept show themes? (Optional)	
1	Transformation
2	Perhaps an exhibit of photographic prints
3	Let people suggest concept show themes and then pick them randomly.
4	Not sure, but I like the idea. Only thing that worries me is that Members may not have as many opportunities as in past. Even beginners used to submit, like me, but doesn't seem possible to enter many shows now. We should revisit what the original goals of gallery are or were and make sure you are not alienating older members. IDEA is something on the environment theme, or seashore or forests and mountains
5	Abstract only or realism only eg. landscape or portraits.
6	Nature or fantasy

7	In the style of an artist. Recycle Re-Envision. Miniature masterpieces. Land art
8	how about showing some loyalty to long time members and call it "longtime members"
9	Wildlife, habitat, people and places,
10	Migration; the Legacy of Salmon; Comox Valley Fossils; Dementia Village;
11	Comox Valley (tourist promotion and community interaction); Water (seascapes, lakes and rivers, moving and still)
12	Beyond Knowing, or Concepts in Blue, or Vitality, or perhaps Tides
13	Sorry but I don't like concept show, I paint for my own enjoyment and don't feel comfortable with being told what I have to paint.
14	Abstracts only
15	Musical theme
16	Photography of local doors. (i.e: one of the out building's doors on the Filberg Lodge property has those beautiful long black decorative door hinges.)
17	Self portraits, Fragility and Stability
18	No suggestions. I prefer to paint what inspires me at the time.

22.

	<p>Pearl Ellis Gallery has grown considerably since its creation 46 years ago. Currently, the Town of Comox generously provides the space for our gallery and it is our responsibility to ensure that we are using that space in a way which most benefits the residents of Comox and of the Comox Valley. Our goal in introducing the jurying process for our three concept shows is to present shows which are cohesive and inspiring to both the viewer and the artists, and to attract additional members and patrons. We encourage all of our members to apply to participate in these juried shows. To increase your chance of being accepted into one of our concept shows please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apply for concept shows that fit your work or inspire you. - Carefully read the show description and ensure your piece relates to the theme. - Write a clear description of your piece/proposed piece, stating how it ties into the theme. - Submit clear photos of your piece, or of work similar to what you intend to produce, or a sketch of the proposed piece. - Submit more than one photo if possible. - Provide a link to your website, Facebook artist page or Instagram page. <p>If you have any comments regarding the three concept shows, please write them here:</p>
1	I love the idea of concept shows
2	I'm glad the Board made the step to both juried and concept exhibits...
3	Not everybody has work that fits into someone else's concept. It would be good to have people, as individuals or as a group, suggest concept shows based on where they see their work fitting in, if at all.

4	As an almost 'retired painter', I'm ok with how you are changing things, but see above comment. I love the gallery and promote it when I can to all and sundry. Enjoy having my ecoprint cards there. Someday I may have a bigger ecoprinted 8x10 to display if it fits theme. I have had a piece in a previous themed show.
5	I am excited by the challenge of creating with a concept.
6	Love the idea!
7	IMHO photographs should be a separate show and should not be commingled with paintings, sketches and sculptures. Photographs are a low budget medium that attracts a very different clientele. It's like having giclees compete with original artwork from a cost perspective.
8	I'm assuming that at some point after analysis of the survey that you'll send out an email to members with this criteria. Right now I've just done a screen capture but others may not know about that feature (Command-Shift-4)
9	I think it's a great move forward.
10	Sorry but I do not participate in jury shows, someone else is deciding if you are "good enough" to be in a show and for non professional artists who are painting because they enjoy it and just like to display their work this can be very discouraging. Also many of us do not have web sites, Facebook artist page or Instagram and do not want one.
11	There was not enough time from the time the list was posted to when we had to actually send in an application. I hadn't even thought of what I would like to do. I just knew the category was in my wheel house. Despite that I was turned down for both concept shows. I'm not sure I'll renew my membership for 2024.
12	They are great ideas.
13	They are inspiring
14	The submission date for 2 of the shows I thought was very short and it was not possible for me to submit something in a brief time especially since it was specific themes.
15	Would be good for artist to be able to get a copy of the submission they make when for records and to reflect on when completing the piece. Currently only PEG gets the submission. Support the idea of concept shows as it can draw in more people and inspires artists to do something different perhaps.
16	I would be interested to know why a Survey of member opinions concerning major changes such 3 concept shows and jurying wasn't done prior to finalization of the policy. The current survey seems "after-the-fact" and for what purpose? I am concerned that the long standing Inside Art group show as well as others, were automatically eliminated with no real explanation as to why. I am also concerned that the changes will result in the atmosphere of the gallery becoming less friendly, less encouraging to "new" and emerging artists and less community-oriented, to one that may be considered more elitist in nature. There are not many available venues for new and emerging artists in the Comox Valley.

23.

Pearl Ellis Gallery will also be jurying the 2024 solo/joint/group shows. Again, we encourage all members and groups to apply. Here are some tips to increase your chance of being accepted into one of our solo/joint/concept shows:

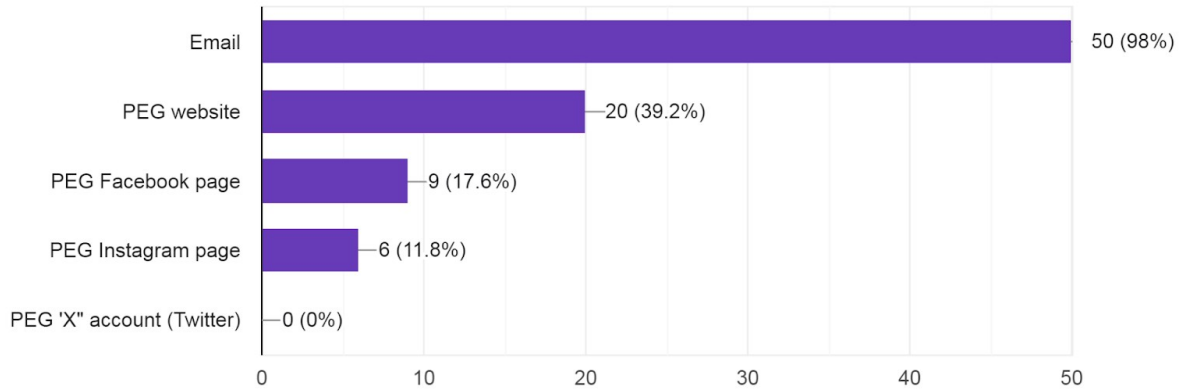
- Whether you are applying for a solo, joint or group show, it is helpful to have a theme. This will ensure a cohesive look to the show.
- Write a clear description of your work, and of the theme or concept.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide multiple, clear photos as examples of what you will be showing or which are similar to what you will be showing. - For groups, do not apply individually. Choose one member of the group to apply on behalf of the group. - For groups, submit examples of work from as many members of the group as possible, or submit photos of past shows which show several pieces on the walls. - For solo, joint or group shows, we will not jury individual pieces. Once you are accepted it will be up to the solo/joint artists or the group to select the actual work to be exhibited, ensuring it is representative of what was promised in the application. - If you are applying for a solo show, be open to sharing it with another artist as a joint show. You do not need to have someone in mind to share the show with you. We will pair you with another member who will compliment your work. - When applying for a joint show please apply individually, and state your preference of who you wish to share the show with. Please note we cannot guarantee that you will be paired with that other artist, but we will do our best. <p>If you have any comments regarding the solo/joint/group shows, please write them here:</p>
1	Thanks for the info!
2	Keep up with the concepts... the exhibits will be even better
3	Juried shows can be intimidating and contain an innate bias that will exclude some artists. We may alienate or lose members as a result.
4	I think I have commented enough, just don't forget the beginners and emerging artists. I know of some long time members who are very unhappy. I'm ok with most of it. Glad to have some enthusiastic people to take over. I love, the gallery and drop in often.
5	Members shows should have a theme, perhaps related to the season.
6	Is this information available on the website?
7	I think you are on the right track in the process you have set out. It should maximize the effective presentation of PEG members' artistic endeavours.
8	I think that we should not be jurying ALL the shows. Some do not fit into categories, or have enough output to have a duo or solo show. You may lose a fair number of artists who have been with the PEG for a while if you follow up and jury all the shows.
9	Perhaps a longer period could be provided for drop-off and pick-up for out-of-towners.
10	If a group applies to book a show I do not feel it should be limited to them having a theme. It is their show !
11	I am not in favour of jurying shows at the PEG and wish I had been surveyed prior to the change, rather than after.
12	As you may be aware, my group, Inside Art, has already applied for a group show and been rejected. As we are a long-standing group that has worked and sold art in the gallery for many years, it was a discouraging experience. I do not feel hopeful for any future applications that we may attempt.

24.

How do you prefer to receive information from PEG? Please check all that apply.

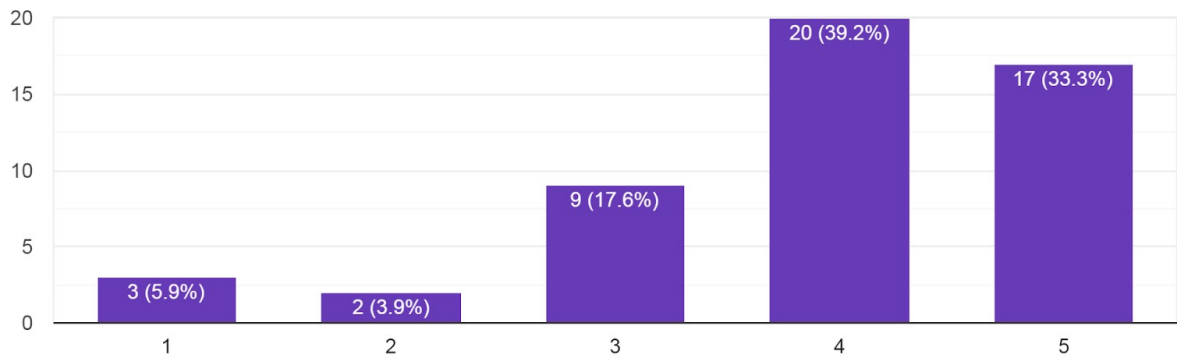
51 responses



25.

On a scale of one to five, how satisfied are you with communication at PEG? Do you feel well informed about upcoming shows, volunteer needs, opportunities etc?

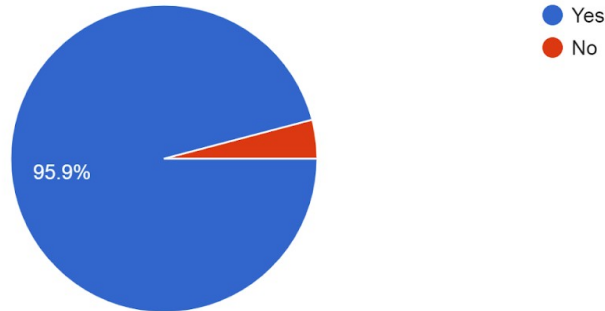
51 responses



26.

Are you a current member of Pearl Ellis Gallery?

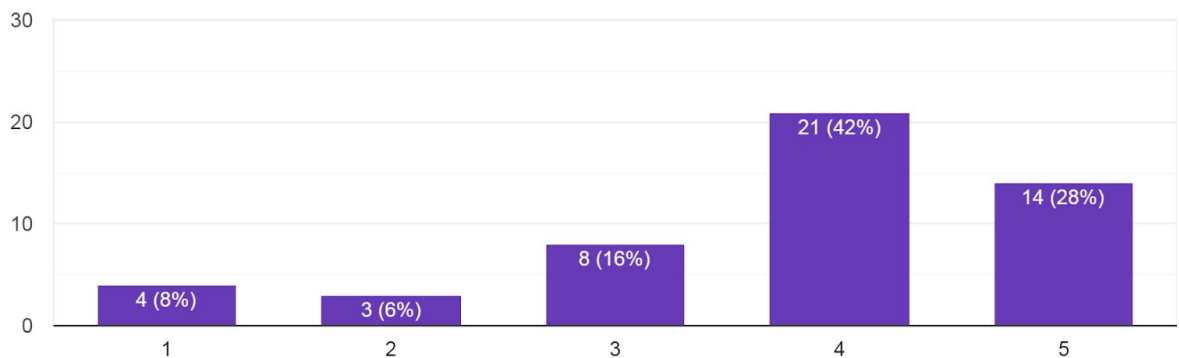
49 responses



27.

On a scale of one to five, how satisfied are you with your PEG membership?

50 responses



28.

Do you feel you benefit from your PEG membership? If so, what are the benefits you enjoy? What benefits would make being a member more enticing?	
1	attending the seminars at a discount
2	The ability to hang my prints both in Members exhibits and group exhibits
3	I like having my name in the directory and accessing it for other artists. I have enjoyed volunteering, and participating in the group shows and at the satellite galleries. I feel that the juried and concept shows, and increased membership numbers, will exclude me from many future shows. Many shows are already full and it remains to be seen how the current changes will affect our gallery and its members.
4	More workshops
5	More ability to show work, but as I said, I'm ok with everything.

6	Showing and selling my art.
7	Remove juried shows and concept shows. Continue the gallery like it has always was before..I am not renewing my membership. Not happy with the new changes.
8	More opportunities meet other members, socially or professionally. Encourage members to wear name tags especially at opening receptions.
9	Yes, its great to feel part of the artistic community, meet other artists and participate in shows.
10	a show that honors the existing group of Painters that have been at the lions den for 30+ years Mondays group
11	A plein air group
12	The organizers / volunteers do an amazing job for local artists and the community. I like the idea of juried art shows, as the quality and value to the customer must be exceptional and constantly improving . Artwork below a certain price point belongs in a craft fair, not in a higher end gallery like Pearl Ellis.
13	on line search shows my art here
14	Yes and I like the addition of juried shows. Workshops for more advanced artists would be appreciated.
15	I probably do not use the benefits of belonging to the PEG to my full advantage.
16	Discounts at fabric shops;
17	It brings emphasis into my day to day existence of the artistic side of my personality. It seems to me that what you are doing encourages broad participation. As nature demonstrates diversity=strength change=progress (a big shout out to Charlie Darwin)
18	yes, though I haven't taken advantage of all the benefits.
19	Ability to exhibit.
20	I have been very happy with the way things were being done but will wait to see how it is now. I have enjoyed doing reception and hanging shows but now I feel that the gallery is trying to get more professional artists. I have sold one painting through the gallery and have done one commission since being with the gallery and in the 15 years before moving to Comox and joining the Gallery in 2021 I have sold 20 painting but in no way think of myself a professional artist.
21	a show my work fits into
22	Not really. It appears to be a fight to get into a show now.
23	connection with other artists, showing my work, supporting other artists.
24	not sure
25	I enjoy being around other artists, meeting the public and helping out where I can.
26	Yes, I especially like the email links.
27	I do enjoy hosting in the gallery and meeting other member artists as well as talking to guests. The show openings are a good opportunity to meet up although I can't always make all of them.
28	Availability to more workshops from artists outside of our valley would make membership worthwhile. I travel even outside of BC for good workshops I sell my cards at PEG
29	Great value and good exposure for my work.
30	Main benefit is to easily be able to show work in gallery or library/rec centre. Helpful for an emerging artist!

31	I volunteer to give back to the community, particularly the art community.
32	Yes. I make more than my membership costs (in card sales).
33	Being able to show small paintings (eg4x6)along with cards on a regular basis
34	opportunity to show my work in member shows and to sell cards at the Gallery
35	Support from other artists, showing pieces, workshops, learning Still think a family membership price may be a good thing to encourage younger artists to join as well.

29.

If you are not a current member, why not?	
1	I am the webmaster and not an artist
2	life changes
3	Need to pay dues for 2024
4	I am a current member, but I am not sure about joining in 2024 due to the reasons I have explained previously.

30.

What suggestions do you have for improving PEG? (Optional)	
1	Would like the PEG to obtain studio space to share with other members.
2	The PEG needs to increase its presence in Comox Valley. The gallery is not easily seen from the street. Other means are needed to let people know PEG exists.
3	New ideas are sometimes hard to implement... stick with the juried exhibits and the concept exhibits... while it may be more difficult to book a group exhibit... the ones that do make it on the wall will look even better.
4	More satellite galleries would benefit artists by providing more venues. It would be good to put the word out to more public spaces, restaurants, and businesses that may enjoy having the opportunity to display our artwork.
5	I am very disappointed Inside Arts, Brushworks & Photography Group did not hold their respective show times. I feel it is a slap in the face to all these members who have supported the gallery all these years. I do not plan on renewing my membership in the gallery and likely won't support any shows by attending.
6	Go back to original mandate for the gallery. It is for emerging and new artists, not for professional artists.
7	Keep the current board members!
8	Thanks for all your hard work transforming the PEG into a more professional gallery that I am happy to be a member of.
9	Regrettably, you are consulting with the membership after the fact that significant changes have been foisted on the many by the few. It would have been more palatable to have been consulted as major stakeholders before (emphasis added) having announced the altered ways of operating as a volunteer run gallery.
10	you're on the right track!
11	By adding multiple partitions into the showroom area more pieces could be exhibited. It might require more lighting too, but overall I think it would add to the appeal. Right now it only takes a

	few minutes for attendees to circle the area and it lacks ambiance. As well, in each show if there was soft music or a fountain in the space, it adds a positive sensory effect. This may hold people in the space longer and the longer people are in a "store" the more likely they are to purchase. The other helpful addition to an installation would be the artist's statement about the piece(s). I have seen this in other galleries and gives insight.
12	Being able to update my membership online; being able to 'fax' to the gallery desk; have a small speaker for light background music; hire an admin person for a few hours per month to lighten the load for exec's.
13	Consider more photography as an art form.
14	I think you all are doing wonderful work and I appreciate all the time and effort you put into the gallery. It's a wonderful place for us to enjoy!
15	I like the direction the new board is going with the gallery and wish that members who haven't shown their art will do so in the future. Really choosing paintings that go well together to make a good whole show and hanging it really well. Has not always happened in the past but I do recognize it is getting better.
16	While I sort of understand and agree that change is good for PEG, I feel the way it is/has been done is underhanded and dictatorial. Little was discussed or explained to the shareholders, we the members. Not sure if I will continue my membership and volunteering. If you are going to run the PEG like a business, then it is time to hire staff and stop relying on volunteers. You cannot have it both ways
17	The members shows should not be juried. All member's shows throughout the year should be open for admission to all members even if you have participated in 3 or more other exhibitions.
18	It is such a great venue but seems underused/under visited. Could make more use of space (for sales of small things) so it becomes a shopping destination (if allowed in agreement with town). * Seems like gallery needs to reach more people to build broader patronage. Perhaps partner on theme shows with other organizations? (e.g. environmental, women's groups, social justices groups....)* Also could use more coordinated marketing it seems (but it is improving). * PEG is a great place for new/emerging artists but needs to balance that with need to build a base of support and interest (e.g. quality matters). I think you are trying to walk that fine line now which is great.
19	Hard , but get a bigger board. Spread the responsibilities out/share them. Board members tend to be overworked. The majority of revenue is made from workshops. Continue to host them and reduce the commission taken from artists back to 10% on cards and 15% on art. I cannot understand why why it was increased recently. The gallery has a very hefty bank balance. Personally, I think the gallery has far too much money in the bank. Something to think about. How much money should a volunteer operated agency have in the bank and investment certificates?
20	Having an attic sale at least once a year
21	None yet. I'm new to the gallery.
22	I suggest that any major changes be communicated widely to the membership, in advance, and provide an opportunity for members' input prior to finalization of policies.
23	I think you are definitely making some positive and interesting changes. Looking forward to seeing the PEG grow. I am willing to help out in any way I can, as a "drop in" volunteer, since I may not be in town on a regular basis. Call me when the need arises.-)