

Perspectives & Pints - Neighborhoods & Communities Favorite Quotes

What do young creatives want from their neighborhood or community?

- “One thing I like is being able to walk everywhere...when I look back at the different places I’ve lived, I think I’ve been the happiest when I’ve been able to walk to the grocery, walk to work, things like that.”
- “I think green-space is important...and having space that you can walk your dog.”
- “Public space in general...places for people to gather that isn’t just a private residence.”

What are some things you’ve liked in other neighborhoods & communities you’ve lived in or visited?

- “I came from Athens, Ohio... and there was a really strong sense of supporting local everything ...they had farmer’s markets all the time...It became a place to be, and people went there just to run into other people.”
- “I just spent Thanksgiving in Portland, Oregon – almost everything is mom and pop. They have these concentrated little areas, consider the Santa Clara District – they have a coffee house and three restaurants and movie theatre and a grocery store – everything that the surrounding community would need.”
- “Other places I’ve lived...you really had the sense of being a melting pot...Dayton actually has a pretty diverse population, but I don’t think we interact at all. And there aren’t a lot of spots where can sort of safely cross over and be part of other cultures easily.”

What are some things young creatives like about Dayton’s neighborhoods or communities?

- “One thing I think Dayton has going for it is that it is a big small town.”
- “When I came here I never planned on staying in Dayton...what I found attractive was how easy it was to become engrained in the community as opposed to many of the other bigger cities I’ve been in.”
- “I think easy is a good word, because I use that when I describe Dayton to other people. It’s just easy to live here – it’s convenient, it’s easy to get around, there aren’t lines everywhere – it’s just an easy city.”

What are some things that frustrate young creatives about Dayton’s neighborhoods & communities?

- “There’s just a lot of vacancy...I’d almost feel safer if there wasn’t an empty, vacant warehouse, or empty, vacant building, or empty, vacant house – if there was nothing, I would feel safer.”
- “One of things I’ve notice living downtown is every gateway, every access to downtown from the outside is rough – it’s bad... There is no real, ‘Welcome to Dayton.’ You have to get into the center, or get onto the river, or get into the Oregon District for it to really feel welcoming.”
- “Once you get downtown, you want to get out of your car...and you want to walk from amenity to amenity. There just seems to be a disconnect from the major amenities that we’ve selectively placed downtown...there’s no walking connection to where you feel like there is life from point A to point B.”
- “It’s hard to get people to walk two blocks if they have to walk by two boarded-up buildings.”
- “I live in the suburbs and I always have a fear of coming down and not finding a place to park... Sometimes that will prevent from going to a place that I would have gone otherwise.”