

Perspectives & Pints on Entertainment & Nightlife: Favorite Quotes

What do young creatives want from their entertainment and nightlife?

- **Variety:** “I need some variety when I go out. Any city that you go to have fun has this intermingling of different types of venues in a small location.”
- **Weekly events:** “I’ve lived in Cincinnati and every Wednesday on the river they had Party in the Park after business hours...there was literally thousands of young creative class people and it was sponsored by LaRosa’s and certain beer vendors...So you’re talking about events, I’m thinking along the lines of an Urban Nights, but more on a weekly basis. Better utilization of the riverfront – it’s beautiful down there.”
- **After work:** “I used to live in Houston and they used to do something right after work – so many times you hear from our friends – I’m going home and I don’t want to come all the way back. That’s something I saw happen and work in Houston.”

What do young creatives like about Dayton’s entertainment & nightlife?

- **Urban Nights:** “I look forward to Urban Nights – it opens up the West Side and people who might not normally come downtown, come downtown to see other things. When the Urban Nights happens, I’m amazed. It doesn’t even look like Dayton. It is truly a melting pot.”
- **Our arts:** “We have a high quality high art. The Ballet, DCDC, theatre companies, things of that nature that are really, really good. We also have some amazing bands that are around here. We have a lot of great things.”

What frustrates young creatives about Dayton’s entertainment & nightlife?

- **On information:** “There is not a good single source to find out what’s happening.”
- **Venues for shows:** “When you look at other metropolitan areas, the one thing that’s really missing here is large musical acts. I’d like to see some venues booked that I want to go to – where I don’t have to go to Hara Arena. I think that is a large part of what’s missing in downtown Dayton.”
- **Diversity:** “There’s this whole niche thing where there’s the Oregon District, the gay bars down a little ways, the places where African-American people primarily go...every thriving urban center that I’ve ever been to, if you go their art, entertainment, nightlife area, all of those people are there together....I think that’s a huge problem in Dayton.”
- **Connectivity of amenities:** “The problem with Dayton right now and its nightlife is that it is in pockets. You have the Oregon District, you have 5/3 Field, you have the arts district over on 3rd St., the canal, you have the Greene, everything is spread out.”
- **Diversity:** “There are a lot of times I come down here to the Oregon District and we’ll go to dinner and if it’s a Saturday night I feel like I’ve got to leave by 9 or 10 o’clock...I honestly don’t feel safe with my partner walking down the street in the Oregon District because we’ve gotten yelled at.”
- **And just wanting more:** “The major difference you see between Urban Nights and Friday and Saturday nights – Urban nights you have you have everything at full volume. If that was an every weekend thing, where the arts population is doing something right on the street, right where people can congregate and go see it, different vendors, bar scene, club scene, all that at the same time, you will get everybody down here because that is what everybody comes down for on Urban Nights. On Urban Nights it seems like we are a big city. It really, really does. On Friday and Saturday night, we seem like a street.”