STUDENTS' INFORMATION EXPERIENCES ABOUT FINE ARTS IN THE IBENZANI USMAN GALLERY, FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS, STATE UNIVERSITY OF PADANG

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ABSTRACT

This study examines students' experiences of information about fine art works at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Padang State University. This study employed a qualitative descriptive method. The information in this study was determined using purposive sampling techniques. Data collection techniques included observation, interviews, and documentation. Data analysis techniques included data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions that were linked and aligned with the problem formulation.The results of this study indicate that the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition 1) Identifying Information Sources that Influence Students' Knowledge of Fine Art Works at the Ibenzani Usman GalleryVisitors who are students try to fulfill the need for information about Fine Arts by utilizing the works exhibited at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition which is considered quite relevant because there is a catalog that explains the works of art on display. 2) The Process of Student Experience in Obtaining Information about Fine Arts Works at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery; a. The Ibenzani Usman Gallery as an influential forum/exhibition. The works exhibited at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery influence the ideas/creativity of visitors who are students majoring in fine arts, b. The Ibenzani Usman Gallery as an impact of information search. The gallery has an impact on increasing knowledge and insight, becoming a guideline in creating works of art for visitors to the Gallery exhibition.

Keywords : *Information, Galeri, Ibenzani Usman, Exhibition.*

INTRODUCTION

Visual art plays a crucial role in cultural and educational development, particularly in academic settings such as universities. Students at the Faculty of Languages and Arts, Universitas Negeri Padang (UNP), have extensive access to various sources of information on visual art, both from the university library and art exhibitions. However, how they seek and access this information has not been extensively researched. Understanding students' information experiences with visual art is crucial to improve the accessibility and quality of the information available.

Research on students' information experiences regarding fine art works at the Faculty of Languages and Arts, Padang State University (UNP) is relevant due to the increasing need for visual literacy and art appreciation in higher education curricula. In today's digital and information age, students have easier and faster access to various information sources. However, specific information experiences, such as information about fine art works, pose unique challenges. This study aims to understand students' information experiences regarding fine art works at Padang State University (UNP). These experiences involve various aspects, ranging from the information sources used, the obstacles encountered, to how students assess and use the information they find.

The experience of information about works of art requires not only access to adequate information sources, but also the ability of students to understand and evaluate that information. According to research fromEisenberg & Head, (2009) Students often face difficulties in determining the credibility and relevance of information sources, especially in academic contexts. In the context of fine arts, where aesthetic judgment and subjectivity are highly significant, this challenge may be even greater.

On the other hand, digital technology offers significant opportunities for developing access to information. Digital libraries, academic databases, and social media platforms can be rich sources of information related to fine art. However, the effectiveness of students' use of these resources depends on their information literacy. Information literacy encompasses the ability to recognize when information is needed, and the ability to search for, evaluate, and use information effectively.(College et al., 2000).

Padang State University has various information resources available to students, such as libraries, art galleries, and lecturer and student publications. However, the frequency and effectiveness of these resources in students' experiences with art remains to be investigated. Research byKim & Sin, (2011)shows that students' use of academic information sources is often limited and they are more likely to use the internet and social media to search for information.

Another factor to consider is the obstacles students face in seeking information. Furthermore, institutional support, such as the availability of information literacy training, is also important. Research byGross & Latham, (2012)emphasizes the importance of information literacy training in improving students' ability to search for and use information effectively.

In addition to information access and literacy, information experiences are also influenced by students' perceptions of the importance of that information. In the context of fine arts, students with a strong interest and appreciation for art tend to be more proactive in seeking information.

Research on students' information experiences with fine art at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Padang State University, is crucial for several fundamental reasons. First, the gallery serves as a significant art exhibition center for fine art students, and therefore, effective access to information related to the exhibited works is essential for academic purposes, research, and the development of student creativity. Second, information literacy in the

fine art field is a crucial aspect of the academic world, encompassing students' ability to search for, evaluate, and utilize information effectively. This research will provide an overview of the development of students' information literacy and how they can optimally access information. Third, it will reveal the technical and non-technical barriers faced by students in their information experiences, thereby assisting institutions in improving the infrastructure and services available at the gallery, including optimizing digital resources.

Furthermore, understanding the gap between students' information needs and the availability of information resources in galleries can help institutions improve the quality and quantity of information access. This research also plays a role in increasing students' appreciation and creativity towards artworks, which in turn can support the development of their talents and creative potential. Furthermore, this research supports the preservation of local artworks by strengthening the accessibility and appreciation of the works of local artists exhibited in the gallery. Furthermore, the Ibenzani Usman Gallery also plays a crucial role in students' interactive learning process, so this study will evaluate how effectively the gallery provides the information needed by students. The importance of this research also lies in its efforts to address technical and non-technical obstacles, such as the lack of digital infrastructure or support in information experiences, which can be identified and addressed. Thus, this research can make a significant contribution to the development of fine arts scholarship and support a better learning process at Padang State University.

METHOD

This study uses qualitative research. Qualitative research is a research approach that explores the natural conditions of an object through triangulation: observation, documentation, and interviews. The results are descriptive data containing written or spoken words from the researcher's observations.(Quantitative, 2016). The method used is the descriptive method, which is a research method that aims to describe the object's situation accurately and objectively, by producing data in the form of words and descriptions, not numbers through data or samples that have been obtained.(Creswell & Creswell, 2017). The reason for using this method is because the research objective is to describe and illustrate what kind of data (information experience) is taken from the subject during the research so that it can be processed further using a certain theory so that conclusions can be found students' information experiences to came at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition, Padang State University.

The selection of this research location is based on the location's easy access and also on obtaining appropriate data, answering the problems and phenomena that occur in accordance with the main focus of the proposed problem. The research began with interviews with informants. Afterward, the researcher conducted observations as an observer of the facilities and infrastructure at Padang State University. The researcher acts as both the instrument and the primary data collector. In this regard, as stated by Lexy J. Moleong, the researcher's role in qualitative research is quite complex. They simultaneously plan, implement, and analyze data, interpret, and ultimately report the research results.

Informants in this study were selected using purposive sampling. Purposive sampling is a technique for selecting informants with specific considerations and objectives who truly master the object being studied (Sugiyono, 2012:126). As forThe criteria that will be used as informants are (1) Active students at Padang State University, (2) Frequently visit the Ibenzani Usman

Gallery, Faculty of Languages and Arts, UNP, (3) Have experience related to artwork at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery.

Instruments are tools used during research. Two main factors can influence research results: the quality of data collection and the quality of the research instruments.(Quantitative, 2016). In this study, the main instrument used was the researcher himself. As the primary instrument, the researcher will be directly involved with the subjects and objects in the research process.

Data collection techniques are the methods used to obtain the data and information needed for research purposes. Qualitative research generally utilizes observation, interviews, and documentation. According toCreswell & Creswell, (2017)Documentation is a systematic and structured activity of recording important events, in the form of writing, pictures or works, to collect data and information relevant to research. Literature review was used to supplement the research data. This review included articles, journals, theses, books, and other relevant literature sources. These sources served as benchmarks and references for this study.

The data validation technique used in this study was triangulation. According to Patton, triangulation involves comparing and cross-checking sources to determine the reliability of information obtained through different time periods and tools in qualitative research (Moleong, 2007:29).

Triangulation of sources in this study was carried out by comparing observation data with interview data and also comparing or re-checking the accuracy of the information fromvarious sources or methods of data collection to confirm and validate research findings. Triangulation of research sources was carried out with the assistance of a third party, a lecturer in the Library Doctoral Program at Padang State University. The data analysis techniques used in this study are (1) data reduction, which is separating and selecting the required data so that it is easier to use the data and information obtained; (2) data presentation, which is the breakdown of data and information that has been reduced, the presentation is done in narrative form in an organized and systematic manner; (3) drawing conclusions, which is the final step if the data has been reduced and described systematically. The data taken will be connected to each other and adjusted to the problem formulation so that conclusions can be drawn.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The Ibenzani Usman Gallery is an arts facility located within Padang State University (UNP). The gallery is named after Ibenzani Usman, a prominent Minangkabau artist and composer. He was an educator who played a key role in establishing the Fine Arts Department at Padang State University (UNP) and the designer of the iconic monument in Padang. The name honors his dedication and contributions to the arts and education.

The Ibenzani Usman Gallery serves as an exhibition space and for developing fine arts activities. This gallery plays a vital role in supporting the educational process, particularly for fine arts students, and serves as a platform for art appreciation for the wider community.

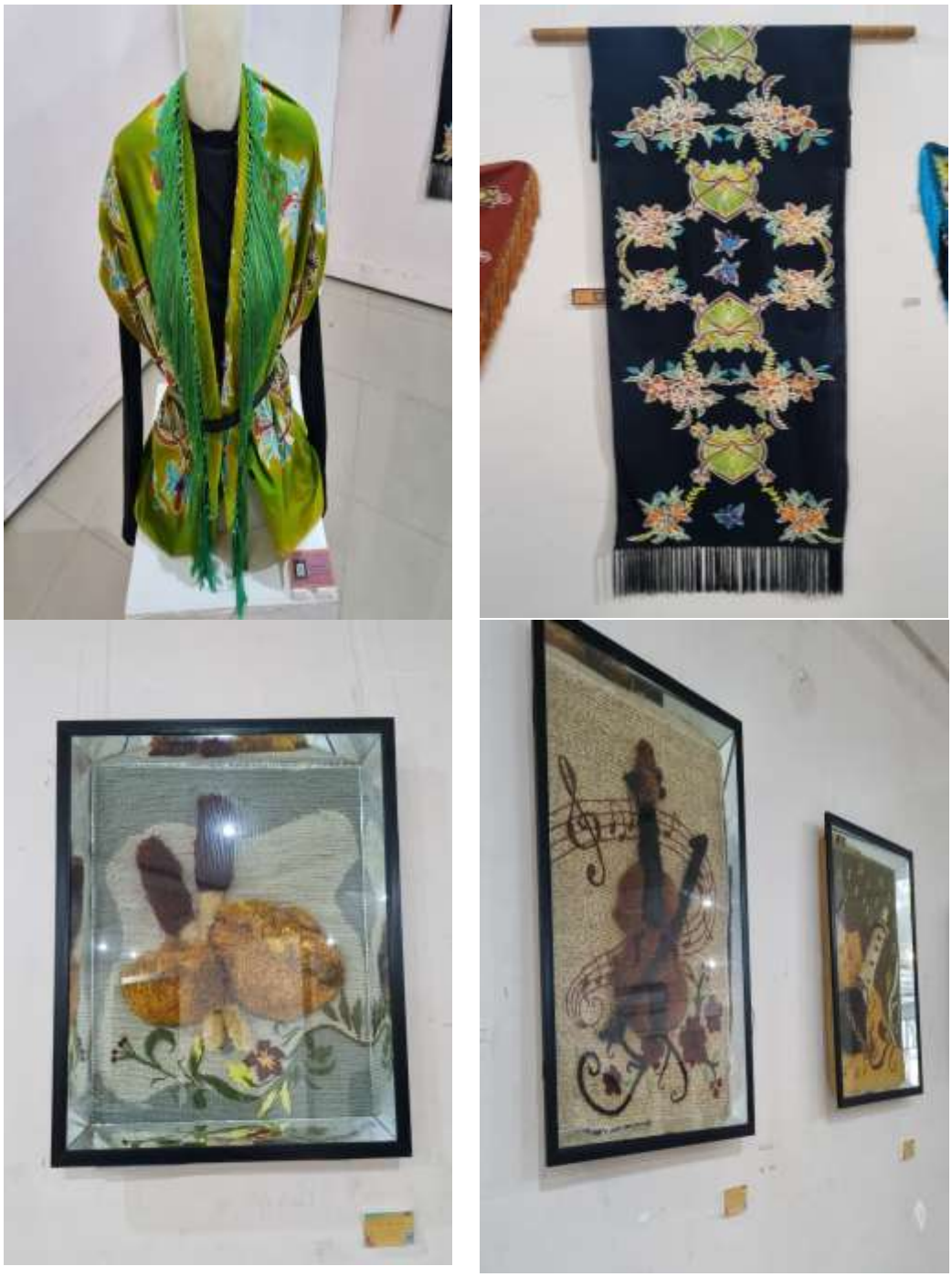


Figure 1. Images of some of the works of fine art exhibited at the Ibenzani Gallery

The Ibenzani Usman Gallery serves not only as a showcase for art but also as a platform for education and interaction. Various types of fine art, including paintings, sculptures, graphics, and installations, are frequently exhibited here, including works by students, faculty, and artists from outside the university.

As part of Padang State University, the Ibenzani Usman Gallery plays a vital role in education, particularly in the field of fine arts. The gallery serves as a learning medium that allows

students to learn directly through observing works of art.(Pratiwi et al., 2024)observation or observation is an activity on a process or object with the intention of feeling and then understanding the knowledge of a phenomenon based on previously known knowledge and ideas, to obtain information. As forThe criteria that will be used as informants are (1) Active students at Padang State University, (2) Frequently visit the Ibenzani Usman Gallery, Faculty of Languages and Arts, UNP, (3) Have experience related to artwork at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery. As forInformants who meet these criteria are as follows:

Table 1. Informant Data

No	Name	Study program	Year of Entry
1.	Neli Andriani	Fine Arts Education	2020
2.	Niska Rahmi	Fine Arts Education	2020
3.	Nia Andriani	Fine Arts Education	2020
4.	Fena Nursabani	Fine Arts Education	2021
5.	Aulia Fahilatul Rahma	Fine Arts Education	2021

Based on the researcher's interview with informants regarding "students' information experiences about works of art exhibited at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery" provides a description of what they got as follows;

Ibenzani Usman Gallery as a source of information on fine art works

Information is essential for everyone to fulfill their information needs. No one is exempt from information, and students are no exception. Students seek information driven by academic needs, such as class schedules, course materials, and so on. Students not only seek information to support academic needs but also seek non-academic information, such as information related to the organizations they belong to.

The information experiences of Fine Arts students who visited the Ibenzani Usman Gallery as a result of identifying information sources related to the importance of meeting their information needs. Students seek information according to their study needs or their chosen study program. For example, Fine Arts students need information related to local areas. Information about local areas can also be referred to as local content. Local content is material that contains information about a local entity.(Liauw, 2005)Therefore, Fine Arts students need information about fine art works.

Fine art is a branch of art, where art itself is a work or creation and human action that arises from a feeling of wanting to achieve balance or harmony.(Pardede, 2022). In creating a work of art, a person needs ideas. According to(Tris Neddy Santo et al., 2012)Developing and enriching ideas is done through an interactive process of experiences deposited through memory, then combining perceptions obtained from the environment in the process of creating works of art. Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery are an environment where visitors or students interact with works of art.

Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery believe that exhibitions can be used as a means of identifying information sources. This is evidenced by their visits to exhibitions to obtain information and the subsequent exhibitions held at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery. Trust in information sources is crucial before selecting a source. This aims to fulfill cognitive needs, which encourage understanding various sources of information in the hope of increasing knowledge.(Fauziyah et al., 2023).

Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery trust the exhibition because the artworks presented provide inspiration for their assignments. Visitors stated that the exhibition is trustworthy based on the identified sources of information. Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery provide quite relevant information, as the artwork exhibition is accompanied by labels and a catalog. This reflects the quality and accuracy of the information presented, so visitors feel confident and safe relying on this account as a source of insight and knowledge.

Based on the informant's answers regarding the description of the works of art in the Ibenzani Usman Gallery, it is sufficient to meet the need for information, because there are work labels and catalogs as media that bridge between visitors and information.



Figure 2. Images of works of art with labels and catalogs

The knowledge and insights possessed by visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery are involved in the information they need. From the presentation of information needs regarding the artworks they are trying to fulfill, visitors to the exhibition experience information, where visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery identify information sources. Information experience occurs when there is an information need and an effort to fulfill that information need.(Fauziyah et al., 2023). Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition have several information needs that must be met. Identifying these information sources is an effort to meet these information needs. Therefore, visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery, as a result of identifying information sources, become the information experience felt by visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition.

Ibenzani Usman Gallery asinfluential forum/exhibition

The Ibenzani Usman Gallery is located on the campus of Padang State University (UNP). The gallery serves as a source of information. It acts as a medium or platform that bridges the gap between users and the information.(Nardanti & Krismayani, 2014).As a medium of information, it naturally plays a role and influences its visitors. Not all sources of information can effectively convey this information. This is not the case with the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition, which was deemed to have an impact on its visitors.

The information experience experienced by visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery that visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery as an influential exhibition is related to the role and interaction of information with visitors as well as the experiences and feelings that occur to visitors

to the exhibition. Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery as an influential account occurs because there is a role for visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery experienced by visitors so that it gives rise to a certain feeling and provides an experience after seeing the works exhibited.

The exhibition provides an opportunity for visitors to gather information and exchange ideas with fellow students, visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery, and even with the artists themselves. A visitor to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery commented,If we want to know certain information, we are required to have the courage to ask, especially since exhibitions are usually from friends so we can ask more broadly about the information needed (Rahmi, in an interview).

Through the works exhibited at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery, visitors are influenced by the ideas and creativity of their work. Ideas originate within oneself and can be obtained through observation and reflection in specific places that can stimulate the emergence of ideas.(Rezky & Yunus, 2024). Ideas are needed by visitors who are students to inspire them regarding what ideas they will create in their final assignments to be exhibited.

The experiences and feelings experienced by visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery constitute an informational experience. Informational experiences can be in the form of satisfaction with the information obtained, decisions taken, and evoke various emotions when interacting with the information. Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery as an influential exhibition become an informational experience for visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery because it plays a role in the knowledge, creativity and ideas of students and the experiences and feelings experienced by the visitors themselves.

Ibenzani Usman Gallery As a result of information search

Impact is the influence of a service on the surrounding environment and the area it serves. Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery as an impact of information search is the information experience of exhibition visitors. Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery because of the influence generated from the information on the Fine Art Works exhibited in the gallery to visitors. Information experience is human engagement with information and how they relate to information in their daily activities.

The Ibenzani Usman Gallery serves as a visual resource, enabling visitors to gain knowledge through observing works of art. The information gained is not only visual but also contextual, as labels and catalogs are provided for each exhibited work. The Ibenzani Usman Gallery offers a unique learning experience, allowing visitors to discuss the exhibited works with other visitors or artists.

The information that visitors obtain from the information search process through the fine art exhibition at the Ibenzani Usman Gallery gives rise to inspiration and ideas that will later be needed to create new fine art works for visitors who are fine art students.(Austin, 2012)He argues that a good artist realizes that nothing appears suddenly. All creations stem from something that already exists. Therefore, the Ibenzani Usman Gallery can be seen as both a tool and a tool for the information-seeking process. It serves as an influential platform for visitors, including Fine Arts students, to obtain and develop information about works of art.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings and discussions that have been described previously. It can be concluded that the information experience of visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery in an effort to fulfill the need for information regarding Fine Art Works shows a process in identifying results

to fulfill information needs, visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition feel the influence of the works exhibited, and have an impact on visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery.
This can be seen from the research results which show that the information experiences of visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery are grouped into the following points:

a. Ibenzani Usman Gallery as a source of information on fine art works

The information experience of Ibenzani Usman Gallery visitors as a result of identifying information sources was obtained from the efforts of visitors who are students in fulfilling their information needs regarding Fine Arts. Based on the research results, visitors feel that knowledge of fine arts is important because of the demands of lectures, so they visit the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition as a source of information.

b. Ibenzani Gallery Usman asinfluential forum/exhibition

The Ibenzani Usman Gallery is a gallery located on campus and serves as a venue/space for exhibitions of fine art. Visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibitions experience information through the experiences and feelings they experience during their visit, influencing students' ideas and creativity in the field of fine art. Therefore, the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibitions are influential and become an informational experience for visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibitions.

c. Ibenzani Usman Gallery asimpact of information search

The Ibenzani Usman Gallery Exhibition as an Impact of Information Seeking is certainly an informational experience for visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition. After receiving and fulfilling a need for information, a person naturally gains an experience. The impact felt by visitors to the Ibenzani Usman Gallery exhibition is an informational experience. This impact includes increased knowledge and insight, guidance in creating works of art, and ideas and creativity in creating works of art.

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