Gender, Identity & Sexual Orientation

Gender identity varies depending on role in the technical theatre industry. The WDS found that 83% of individuals working in costume, wig, and makeup design and technology identify as female while 76% of those working as theatre business professionals identify as male.

Of individuals working the digital media design and technology, 10% identify as genderqueer, the highest percentage in any segment.

Individuals identifying as genderqueer or a different identity identified predominately as different sexual identity. Female identifying respondents were twice as likely as male respondents to identify with a different sexual orientation than the ones provided.

Thirty-one percent of respondents identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, asexual or other. This figure is higher when compared to other communities studied by SMU DataArts. On the national level, the U.S. Census Household Pulse Survey found 10% of the population responded as gay, lesbian, bisexual or “something else.”

The rate of LGBTQIA respondents in this survey is more than three times the baseline rate from the Household Pulse report.

All categories except theatre business professional had at least 25% of individuals identifying as asexual, bisexual, gay, lesbian or other. In the digital media design and technology category, 45% identified in this way, with 22% identifying with a different sexual orientation than the ones provided in the survey.

view complete study at www.usitt.org/wds