



1100 North Main Street Suite 106B • Ann Arbor, MI 48104 • 734.213-2733 • www.A3Arts.org

Candidate's Full Name: Sabra Briere

Candidate's Residency: Ann Arbor

Candidate's E-mail Address: sabra.briere@gmail.com

Office Candidate Seeks: City Council

District/Ward: Ward 1

Party Affiliation (if applicable): Democrat

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to create, live, work, play, learn and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am personally a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

FestiFools, various concerts, historic building tours, historic displays, museum tours, gallery events.

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

I was a visual artist in high school, working with ceramics, jewelry making and print making (woodblocks, silkscreens). I designed and painted sets for school plays. I was on the debate team, traveling to different parts of the state. I learned that we can all see the world from different viewpoints and using different filters. I learned that we can all hear the same thing, but we listen to different parts.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

We all learn in different ways. And we all excel in different things. Eliminating exposure to instrumental music (creation and appreciation), vocal music (creation and appreciation), and all the various ways visual arts impact our lives doesn't cause dropouts, or prevent a student from preparing for college and work. But it severely limits the opportunity each student has - to explore new ideas, to excel at a specific skill, to learn more about others, and to engage in the hard task of practicing. And practicing - whichever skill one explores - teaches patience and perseverance, and growth.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Ann Arbor has a significant arts and cultural community. We can build on that and create more opportunities for its expression. By doing that, we promote:

-Individual skills and interests. Many innovative scientists and entrepreneurs use their creativity in more than one way - they paint, they perform music, they participate in theatre, they write, they sing - and their engagement with the community creates an atmosphere in which more innovative thinkers feel welcome.

-Community engagement. A community with many activities and opportunities for all to create is one that opens its doors to ideas and people. Whether that's a tour of mid-century modern buildings, a lecture series at Kempf House or an art show at the Dancing Dog Gallery or a presentation of Elektra at West Park - each activity brings us together and encourages other activities.

-Exciting events. Whether the event is expected to draw tourists or townies, each opportunity the community has to gather creates other opportunities for commerce (selling 'stuff', selling ideas and services, selling food and drink). And each of these things presents an opportunity for reinvestment in the community. So, individual fulfillment, community engagement, and welcoming the larger community

-All of these offer ways to invest in our community. And each helps provide the yeast to make our community vital and interesting.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

I believe governmental funding should be available for specific types of uses (whether that's direct funding to artists and artist organizations, or indirect funding for staff support). For instance, I would like to see:

1. more (creation of) art in the park, with residents invited to make something (drawing, photo, painting, print, sculpture) during a 4-hour period at one of the parks. This would take staff time to organize, monitor, display, etc.
2. temporary art displays - whether student work or by seasoned professionals.
3. more music in the park - perhaps a 'bring your (non-amplified) music to xxx park and jam' type of event.
4. theatre on Main Street - close off main for one block, and perform for those at cafe tables. These (and other) types of events need not be financially expensive, but create an opportunity to foster and showcase the community and its creative spirit.

7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

I will seek out opportunities to have the City engage in more temporary art displays. I will work with others to encourage more creative opportunities in our parks. I will make certain that each new and significant capital improvement project is considered for enhanced design and for opportunities to include art in the design. I will be open to others' ideas. And that last is most significant. Because no matter what I can do as an individual, it takes all of us to properly invest in and support arts.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

I support providing small grants to arts and cultural organization to help defray the cost of concerts and events, and will continue - and potentially expand - this process. I will encourage broadening the City's impact by establishing temporary displays of visual art in City Hall and - if possible - in City parks. The current ordinance states that the City should include art and/or enhanced architectural features in new capital improvements, where possible and practical. I will encourage the staff to plan for art, and support well developed plans that result.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs, tax based (millages, accommodations, sales etc.), baked into new projects.

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Jane Lumm

Candidate's Residency: Ann Arbor, MI

Candidate's E-mail Address: jane@janelumm.org

Office Candidate Seeks: Ann Arbor City Council

District/Ward: Ward 2

Party Affiliation (if applicable): Independent

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Attended/supported productions and events at the Power Center, Top of the Park/Summer Arts Festival, Purple Rose Theater, UMS, MI Theater, Performance Network. Supported events and fundraisers at The Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor Symphony, attended/supported AA Street Art Fair, Chris Roberts Antieau pop-up exhibition, the Coleman Jewett Art Project, various galleries: WSG Gallery, The Clay Gallery, Ann Arbor Art Center Gallery. Attended the 2014 Creative Economy Policy Summit and plan to attend the 2015 summit. Attended the Canoe Imagine Art Installation Celebration. In prior years, have taken art classes at The Art Center, and a Chris Roberts Antieau workshop. Attended other non-profit arts, culture and historic organizations/functions (e.g., Toledo Museum of Art, Nat'l. Gallery of Art, support Civil War Preservation Trust, etc.) outside Ann Arbor.

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

Always participated in high school plays, the chorus, was a member of a 16 member choral ensemble that was selected to perform special concerts for the high school choir, studied piano for nine years, took various music and arts classes. Participation enhanced enjoyment and appreciation for music and arts. Also was and remain influenced, artistically and culturally, by Pennsylvania German and Impressionist artwork, earthenware (e.g., Stahl pottery, Mercer Museum) and crafts. In my amateur attempts to create art, I was and remain influenced and inspired by an aunt (now deceased), a talented painter who studied under and modeled Walter Emerson Baum's artistic style.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

Visual and performance arts, culture, the humanities are all important components of a well-rounded education. Arts education informs and enriches a student's cultural life, is complementary to and strengthens education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and why many school programs now integrate arts (STEAM) into the technical curricula. Exposure to the arts

affords opportunities for expression and ways to excel that may spark achievement and interest and success in school and life.

The fast paced nature of the times we live in and the demands of the 21st century workforce for creative talent and thinkers also necessitate arts and culture exposure. Today, Washtenaw County ranks 4th in the State for the number of creative industry establishments, employee base and associated wages. Creative jobs and businesses are an important part of the state and local economy and the fast changing nature of the creative economy (e.g., multimedia, software, digital media products and support, 3-D printing, advertising goods and services) will continue to generate opportunities, require creative minds, change the way we live and do business, and make this education/economy relationship relevant. It is a symbiotic relationship.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Ann Arbor's arts and culture and the creative sector as a whole play a significant and critical role in the economic growth and vitality of the community. Supporting and promoting the many artistic and cultural activities that make Ann Arbor attractive and vibrant – e.g., the Art Fair, museums, galleries, musical productions and plays, history tours – create economic opportunities and audiences for artists, entrepreneurs, and networking opportunities for expanding commerce and investment in our community. Arts and culture development and economic development are interrelated.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

I support public investment in the creative economy, and, specifically, support for arts, culture and heritage events and activities – our community's arts, culture and heritage organizations contribute immensely to our quality of life. Personally, I am a lover of art (visual and performance) and have supported, both financially and as a volunteer, various art institutions in the community. I served on the Art Center Board for six years (past President), was on the Art Fair Board for over 10 years, and chaired a search for the Director of the Street Art Fair.

All of council, myself included, recognize the value of public art and support public art. The question and debate has always been how to fund it. I believe if any community should be able to generate sufficient private funding for a quality public art program, it would be Ann Arbor. I was encouraged and excited about that aspect of the revised public art ordinance that council adopted, and I supported, which places a greater emphasis on private sources and fundraising. I continue to believe that's largely an untapped opportunity that warrants much more attention and focus. The recent Coleman Jewett art installation project is a good example of leveraging private funds.

Another untapped opportunity deserving more focused support is our local and very talented artistic community. As many have acknowledged and encouraged, Ann Arbor can and should do more to showcase our many talented, established and emerging local artists. The McKinley and Oxford Companies' privately sponsored and funded downtown mural projects are excellent models of how public art can and should be advanced and supported. Both projects also are commendable examples of engaging and promoting the business and artistic community connection and our local talented artists.

7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

I would continue to support the City's current public investment direction – e.g., funding support for events, organizations, and in-kind staff support for public art projects and installations. I also believe that focusing on smaller projects, one-time events, temporary displays – rather than large budget, permanent art installations – provides a bigger bang for the public art dollar as well as more opportunities for community engagement in the art creation endeavor, and opportunities for local artists.

Promoting citizen access to arts and cultural programs and organizations is also an important contribution that government can encourage and facilitate. I also believe city government could play a role in facilitating stronger collaborative efforts between the University, the public schools and the various visual and performing arts organizations to help ensure that arts and cultural activities do, indeed, prosper and are publicly accessible. Locally produced artwork should be showcased in publicly accessible buildings, and incorporated in capital projects as appropriate. Programs like the DIA's Inside/Out Project should continue to be encouraged and supported and, if feasible, replicated to feature local artists' work. The Grand Rapids' annual ArtPrize public art exhibition and competition is a hugely successful, public participatory event that could be imported to public venues across Ann Arbor, and I would be supportive of public and private collaborations such as this that foster public engagement in the arts.

As a private citizen and elected official, I think it's important to do my part to advocate for artistic undertakings that engage and promote the community, make art accessible to a wide audience, attract artisans, and give artists venues for selling and promoting their art.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

As noted in my response to question 7, I would continue to support the City's current public investment direction – e.g., funding support for events, organizations, and in-kind staff support for public art projects and installations.

I continue to be an advocate for private sector financing of our community's arts and cultural institutions, heritage organizations and artisans, but do support in-kind governmental efforts to help grow the capacity of non-profit arts and cultural institutions to ensure their sustainability. And, as noted in my response to question 6, I believe if any community should be able to generate sufficient private funding for a quality public art program, it would be Ann Arbor. The community's strong support and investment in the capital needs of The Michigan and State Theaters is a shining example of how a community can come together and leverage its collective private and public resources to fund and sustain our arts and cultural institutions and programs.

Much of our public art is privately and successfully funded. I previously mentioned the Coleman Jewett project and McKinley and Oxford Companies' mural projects as examples, and we also have excellent examples of private funding for public art in the University community. The "cube" is one of the most popular sites in the community. Our own arts and heritage patron, Ray Detter, conceived of, and then raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to fund the Ann Arbor Downtown Historic Street Exhibits. By involving historians, designers, and artisans, the exhibits have contributed culturally to Ann Arbor by educating citizens and visitors alike about our history. Festifools was the brainchild of one very creative individual, is largely privately funded, and

continues to delight more and more people every year, and, like the Art Fairs, is a highly successful venture that capitalizes on private funding by leveraging private and public support for services and amenities.

The Ann Arbor community has a strong appreciation for the value of art and culture and its economic impact. We have talented artists and are home to an extensive network of public and private institutions which embrace and promote art, education, appreciation, and enjoyment. With private funding, generous donors, and innovative ways to raise funds for art and culture, local units of government and elected officials can help facilitate the collaboration between these resources that's necessary to ensure that the artistic, cultural and heritage organizations and programs will continue to thrive.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

Appropriations distributed via grant programs, public-private partnerships

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Sally Hart Petersen

Candidate's Residency: Ann Arbor, MI

Candidate's E-mail Address: sally@a2sally.com

Office Candidate Seeks: Ann Arbor City Council

District/Ward: Ward 2

Party Affiliation (if applicable): Democrat

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Several UMS events, FestiFools, Rolling Stones concert (!!), musicals on Broadway and in the London Theater District, Neutral Zone "Live on Washington", Purple Rose Theater, The Clark Art Institute (Williamstown MA)

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

I attended the Mary C. Wheeler School in Providence, RI from 1970 to 1982. The school was founded in the 19th century as a girls' art school. Now it is run as a traditional K-12 college preparatory school. Music and studio art were part of our core curriculum and required courses through middle school. In upper school, I participated in the theater program. I also took Latin from 9th through 12th grade and we studied the Greek culture in addition to learning the language. I also studied French from 5th grade through my Freshman in college. Additionally, I played the piano, recorder, and sang in the Church choir during my childhood.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

Study of arts and culture in schools develops, grows and sustains our creative sector—from designers to performing artists. And according to the National Assembly of State Art Agencies, the fact that the arts are regarded by educators, businesses, parents and kids as essential to school curricula show how valuable the arts are in preparing students for the 21st century workforce. Finally, in cities and towns where support for the arts is championed, college admissions and lower dropout rates give us the evidence we need to establish a strong case for integrating the arts in all schools and education programs.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

There are several ways the creative sector can contribute to city and county economic growth and vitality. First, artists offer local businesses, corporations and local government the creative skills required in today's economy to survive and thrive. Second, the creative sector actually attracts and brings in (imports) more "creatives." Artists are more likely to move to a place because of its quality of life rather than for a particular job. At the same time, artists tend to sell their work outside (export) the place they live. In exporting their work, creatives help the economy of the area. Finally, the creative sector improves civic engagement among residents through initiating and producing community gatherings and celebrations.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

Both indirectly and directly. Indirectly, the City should provide the infrastructure the arts community needs to flourish. This could include the use of open space downtown that could provide the stage for both performance and creative artists. For example, one use of the proposed open space on the library lot could be "Arts Carts", or a gathering space for performance artists. The Covent Garden area of London is a good example of this. More directly, the City can follow the advice of City Council's Public Art Taskforce and launch crowd funding initiatives for specific projects, such as with the Coleman Jewett chairs. And where appropriate, artistic elements can be "baked in" to certain capital improvement projects where the budget allows. Additionally, premiums could be offered to developers who include artistic elements in the design of their buildings.

7. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

Potential measurable actions as a City Council Member:

1. Acknowledge and celebrate that arts and culture are a pillar of Ann Arbor's economy. Develop a city economic strategy that incorporates closer connections between the business community and artists. Recognize formal channels or a "market" to connect businesses with self-employed artists and designers. For example, support effective use of The Arts Alliance artist listings to market local artists and designers to area businesses and corporations.
2. Spearhead public-private partnerships that expand offerings of cultural activities and heritage organizations downtown and in our neighborhoods. For example, more Sonic Lunch-type collaborations and expand the Parks & Rec concert series to include parks in neighborhoods across the city.
3. Develop opportunities for public participation in determining arts and cultural activities as well as their settings and open up nontraditional venues for arts-related activities.
4. Identify public monies (state and federal) for the arts that focus on supporting local, small and culturally diverse organizations, including public school programs, for funding.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

The results of the 2012 millage vote make it clear that today, citizens do not want their tax dollars going to public art. However, I favor hybrid funding for arts and culture such as public-private partnerships and crowd funding. A strategy to support the arts community should be part of an

economic development task force. Ultimately, we should integrate a strategy for assisting the creative sector in refining entrepreneurial skills and growing their businesses into our economic growth policies. Further, the city can promote arts and cultural tourism, including cross promotion with the University of Michigan’s cultural events and museum exhibits—from the Botanical Gardens to the Art Museum. This is an example of working more closely with the U-M in areas of mutual interest and benefit. In addition, the city should ensure that developers of new projects take into account the heritage and character of the neighborhood and the city. These standards should be integral to the planning process.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

Appropriations distributed via grant programs, public-private partnerships

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

U.S.A. Congressional Caucus, Michigan Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Kevin Leeser
Candidate's Residency: Ann Arbor
Candidate's E-mail Address: kleeser@umich.edu
Office Candidate Seeks: City Council
District/Ward: Ward 5
Party Affiliation (if applicable): Independent

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.
I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.
I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
I am an artist or creative either professionally or as an amateur.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Summer Fest! we are regulars! (downtown).
Lily Tomlin live last summer.
Wilco!
Dance, the AA ballet company's nutcracker, my wife has danced in it for years.
I am in the process of producing the 5th Ward Harvest Festival that is occurring this Saturday October 3rd in west park as well! more info at <http://www.5thwardfestival.org/>

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

Back in the late 70's early 80's, while in elementary school, we had "picture ladies" where a person would come to class with a few classic paintings on posterboard, and we would all circle around and talk about the work, the style, and the painter.
My mother was active in the PCCA (Paint Creek Center for the Arts) in Rochester, and I was forced to take a couple of camera-less photography classes in order to fill the quota needed to keep the teacher. That was maybe in 6th or 7th grade, now myself and one of my best pals from that time still make a living as photographers.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

We need arts in the schools, its a crime that this is the first thing that is stripped from the budgets. Helping kids to communicate through any sort of medium besides athletics is tremendous, and I wish things were different.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

We have so many talented artists right in our midst, and most probably don't even know it. I think the selection of a foreign sculptor to create the fountain outside of Ann Arbor's city hall was a huge and costly mistake. We need to incentivize the will for artists to remain in our region, by recognizing them and supporting their work.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

We need to encourage and retain our artists, this may take an actual financial investment. We are now on the verge of creating a tech-driven upper-income downtown that will seriously impact the soul of the whole city.

We don't need to be the next Portland, Oregon, with goof-balls on every corner, but we do need to keep our minds on what made Ann Arbor great, not just low cost high-rise apartments.

7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

I would be more careful with the vetting and budgeting of projects, I feel that the \$46,000.00 price tag on the pair of bronze adirondack chairs is not proper use of funds, even if much of it was privately donated.

The city currently sees every effort that it undertakes as an expenditure, I feel like some investments could actually MAKE the city money, like starting our own tree farm from which we will eventually transplant seedlings were needed. We didn't need to spend 1 MILLION dollars on a landscaping contract, when we could probably have invested that money wisely, thusly saving for other projects.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

I support it. And I believe the DDA (Downtown Development Authority) has a surplus of moneys that could be re-directed in a much more aesthetically pleasing efforts than the "art" bike lock ups that were installed a few years back. I also feel the installation of the downtown information signs was slightly mis-guided.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

U.S.A. Congressional Caucus, Michigan Caucus, Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Chip Smith

Candidate's Residency: Ann Arbor

Candidate's E-mail Address: smittya2@gmail.com

Office Candidate Seeks: City Council

District/Ward: Ward 5

Party Affiliation (if applicable): Democrat

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Summer Festival/Top of the Park, UMS, A2SO, UMMA, Michigan Theater- Not Just For Kids Series, Michigan Theater- films & concerts, A2 Art Aenter

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

I was lucky enough to have early exposure to music, theater and art programs. I believe this exposure has instilled a value for the arts in me.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

The role of arts in education is incredibly important. The arts help to create outlets for students who may struggle in math, science etc. Exposure to arts programs provides broad exposure to other cultures, new ideas and different situations which helps to create a sense of empathy. The creative outlet offered by arts programs can create enthusiasm for school which may help close the achievement gap.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Arts & culture play a huge part in our county's economic development. Programs & events draw visitors to town and have a spillover benefit for area restaraunts, hotels, and retail businesses. Further, these events help define the county as a destination for the arts, which further enhances economic development.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

Government absolutely has a role in funding the arts -both programs & organizations. These groups improve the quality of life for residents while improving the regional economy.

- 7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?**

I will continue to advocate for public art, for funding organizations and events (both established events like Top of the Park and new/emerging events like FestiFools and Cinetopia).

- 8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?**

See previous answer.

- 9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?**

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs, tax based (millages, accommodations, sales etc.), Percent for Art/Culture ordinances.

- 10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?**

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

U.S.A. Congressional Caucus, Michigan Caucus, Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Peter Feeney

Candidate's Residency: Chelsea

Candidate's E-mail Address: pmfeeney@hotmail.com

Office Candidate Seeks: City Council

District/Ward: Chelsea

Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

We attend plays at the Purple Rose Theatre where I am a board member. We enjoy the great wealth of artistic performances at Chelsea High School during the school year and Sounds and Sights in the summer.

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

I was lucky enough to see great theater at Chelsea High School when I went there which made me realize at an early age what talent can do with the right leadership.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

Kids that are engaged do better and the arts can be the key that leads to engagement in school. Families that develop an interest in the arts with their children provide those kids with one more way to engage their minds meaningfully and develop relationships with their peers and teachers that they might otherwise develop.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

The breadth and quality of performances that we get to witness here in Washtenaw County is unbelievable. We think it is normal, but just ask folks who moved in more recently and they will tell you just the opposite. We are fortunate and it is one of the reasons that Washtenaw County is growing and attracting people.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

Public entities have great challenges in meeting a diverse set of needs with really tight budgets. When communities can afford it, they can leverage their own limited funds to attract private and foundation funding to make investments that really improve the quality of life.

- 7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?**

I will keep doing what I am doing by supporting the artists and arts organizations in my community.

- 8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?**

Anyone who has spent time on budgeting knows that there are no line items that exist without a context. The primary context of budgeting and planning is the overall economic well being of the community. If you can manage that well, then you can have funds to arts and culture.

- 9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?**

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs

- 10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?**

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?



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Candidate's Full Name: Jane Pacheco

Candidate's Residency: Chelsea

Candidate's E-mail Address: janeden@sbcglobal.net

Office Candidate Seeks: City Council

District/Ward: Chelsea

Party Affiliation (if applicable): n/a

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

I am an artist or creative either professionally or as an amateur.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

My family enjoys arts, cultural and heritage activities in a variety of ways throughout Washtenaw County. Some of our favorite activities include live theatre, cooking classes, library programming, festivals, and live music events.

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

I participated in a diverse array of classes and activities throughout my own K-12 education. Some of the experiences I had in school centering around visual and performing arts definitely have an influence on my life today. The instruction I received via my involvement in my high school forensics club, in terms of public speaking, is something I draw upon daily.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

There are many studies that demonstrate a direct connection between arts education with higher test scores and lower drop-out rates in K-12 students. Additionally it is well documented that many employers are searching for creativity as a business skill when making hiring decisions. We want to support the next generation of community leaders by preparing them with as many tools as we can.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Arts, culture and the creative sector creates economic activity in our communities by providing jobs and generating government revenue. The communities are stronger for the investment in education and the cultural benefits to existing residents. By promoting tourism the local merchants gain as well.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

I do support public investment in the creative economy. These industries create jobs, generate tax revenue and promote tourism. They make our community one in which people want to live, work and play.

7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

If elected, I will continue my work with the Economic Development Strategy Plan for the City of Chelsea. The current City Council and Downtown Development Authority are in the middle of a year long planning process designed to gather information, gain consensus and make recommendations to present an Economic Development Plan to be included in our updated Master Plan. Arts, culture, heritage organizations as well as creative businesses and individuals all play a major role in the vibrancy of our community and should be specifically addressed in planning processes.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

I do support intentional public funding for arts and culture. I've been a vocal advocate for more year round discussion regarding budget/planning processes. It is important to have a strong plan and a shared vision for our community. Arts and culture are a big part of our community and definitely need to be represented in our community priorities.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?



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Candidate's Full Name: Zachary Frank Michels

Candidate's Residency: Dexter

Candidate's E-mail Address: zmichels@umich.edu

Office Candidate Seeks: Council Member

District/Ward: Dexter

Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am an artist or creative either professionally or as an amateur.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

We have attended the Ann Arbor Art Fairs, downtown Dexter concerts, and the Dexter Plein Air. My mom sells ceramics at the Dexter Farmer's Market. We visited the museums inside the Kremlin.

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

I was in the band program starting in 5th grade, including concert band, marching band, jazz band, pep band, and small wind ensemble. I was also a member of the drama club; I didn't do any acting, but I was a part of the lighting and sound crew. I took an architectural drafting class my senior year. My participation in those had a profound affect on me. I later played in the Michigan Marching Band and Central Michigan Area Concert Band. My undergraduate degree was in architecture.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

I think it's important because it enables people to think in a different way and find their passion. It keeps the kids interested and enthusiastic.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Arts, culture, and the creative sector can provide a draw to bring people into the community and can provide employment for people who live here.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

It is important to support programs that improve the quality of place.

- 7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?**

I don't know right now. Dexter has a relatively active Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee, but I am not fully aware of all of their activities and programs.

- 8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?**

It's important to fund it as reasonably as possible. I have not seen the full details of the City's budgets nor witnessed its budgeting process, so I can't answer this with details.

- 9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?**

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs, public/private partnerships

- 10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?**

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Michael Armitage

Candidate's Residency: Milan

Candidate's E-mail Address: michael@armitageformayor.com

Office Candidate Seeks: Mayor

District/Ward: Milan

Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am an artist or creative either professionally or as an amateur.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

I have attended a concert by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. I have also attended presentations on public art by the Michigan Municipal League in Marquette, MI.

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

Music education and visual arts has had a large impact. I am still involved in music programs at church. I would not have been introduced to many of my favorite songs if not through my K-12 education. I also carried on my desire to photograph and film from my high school experience and continue those activities today, which comes in useful for city communications.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

I believe that the arts stimulate creative thinking, and their availability to students is essential in giving students the tools and motivation to achieve their greatest potentials.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

It is a proven fact that place-making, including the arts, is an effective tool to grow local economies. It is both a draw for non-residents, but also creates a sense of place that retains residents. I support efforts to publicly display the arts, and have educational opportunities available for the entire community that wish to expand their knowledge and talents.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

I believe that there are many partnership opportunities to engage the arts community, along with the non-profit sector to bring additional public art to Milan. I believe the city can and should be a partner in that.

7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

We have seen recent public art projects, such as the Beautification Commission effort to add public murals. I support that and additional measures to bring art to areas, even outside the downtown district.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

We have limited resources, so I believe any effort must be done as a partnership. I want to see a plan for the arts, and identify potential partnerships. I believe the decisions to fund these projects should be based on the specific project, and not mandated by a blanket ordinance.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Douglas "Dutch" Nie II

Candidate's Residency: Milan

Candidate's E-mail Address: dutchnie@comcast.net

Office Candidate Seeks: Mayor

District/Ward: Milan

Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Art Prize, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Greenfield Village, Christmas events, car shows, take house guests

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival

Hand on Museum, Ann Arbor

Purple Rose Theatre shows, Chelsea, Michigan

Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

Participated in art classes especially in graphic arts which I use today in designing marketing materials for my business and organizations I participate in. Also played in various bands through junior high and high school.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

I believe that arts, culture and creative programs allow students to tap into their individual creativity which supplements the traditional learning required for graduation. Also the study of the arts exposes students to different cultures and styles that they may not have the ability to be exposed to, which may lead to the desire to further their study of these cultures in the future. I also think the arts can help keep a student engaged in school if they find that connection while they complete the required graduation requirements.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Economically the arts and culture can attract people from outside the region to visit Washtenaw County and make connections that may foster further development of ventures that could produce revenue. An example is what Art Prize has done for the City of Grand Rapids.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

I think the investment in arts should be public/private partnership, where public contribution can be in kind donations of time, venue and marketing.

7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

To encourage the public/private partnership including making space available in public venues for events, as well as publicizing events and encourage collaboration with existing events to help bring an existing audience.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

I believe the city can donate in-kind services and venues to promote events that would not affect the budget and would include any proposals during the planning process.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

In-kind donations

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

No

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?



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Candidate's Full Name: Mary Kerkes

Candidate's Residency: Milan

Candidate's E-mail Address: mary@image33photography.com

Office Candidate Seeks: City Council

District/Ward: MI

Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

I am an artist or creative either professionally or as an amateur.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

We attend Eastern Michigan Productions as my daughter is a recently graduated theater major. I also support poetry readings and small, independent art stores.

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

I was in forensic speaking classes and participated in the art of language through impromptu speaking and other. I also studied creative writing in high school and have continued through my entire life. I am a poet as well as a photographer and painter.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

All of the above. Mostly though, I believe that the arts allow us to be ourselves. We never so completely express our truest selves than when we are creating without borders or boxes or rules. When we allow our minds to freely go where they go during the artistic pursuits we become better, more rounded versions of ourselves.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Oh good question! My best answer to that would be that when creative people become involved in anything, we think outside the box and the possibilities are endless.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

I believe it has to be an intricate part of every community.

- 7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?**

I am an artist by trade. I will continue to support artist like myself in any format that seems fitting. I would love to see community theater brought to Milan along with art in the park type shows.

- 8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?**

The Arts are incredibly important to me but until I am sitting in on council and given a clearer understanding of the budget constraints, I feel as though I can only express that as a professional photographer myself and the mother of an actress, I will keep a keen eye out for the beauty in our world to have a place in Milan, Michigan.

- 9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?**

- 10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?**

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

U.S.A. Congressional Caucus, Michigan Caucus, Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Lee Bourgoin

Candidate's Residency: Saline

Candidate's E-mail Address: leebourgoin@comcast.net

Office Candidate Seeks: City Council

District/Ward: Saline

Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Oktoberfest, City of Saline

Rentschler Farm activities, City of Saline

Christmas Parade, City of Saline

Memorial Day Parade, City of Saline

Summerfest, City of Saline

Saline Fair, Saline Fairgrounds

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

Civics and Drama were developmental influences.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

Developing flexibility in thinking will help people to be creative in order to adapt to meet the challenges of a changing future.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Developing flexibility in thinking will help people to be creative in order to adapt to meet the challenges of a changing future.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

The creative economy should be part of economic development efforts including tourism.

- 7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?**

I will continue to support the local budget items related to historical, creative and economic development efforts.

- 8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?**

I will continue to support historical and cultural events in the budgeting process.

- 9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?**

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs

- 10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?**

No

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?



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Candidate's Full Name: John J. Ceo, Jr.
Candidate's Residency: Saline
Candidate's E-mail Address: jceo426@comcast.net
Office Candidate Seeks: City Council
District/Ward: Saline
Party Affiliation (if applicable): N/A

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.
I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.
I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
I am an artist or creative either professionally or as an amateur.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Stranahan Theatre, Toledo, Ohio - Member, Stranahan Theatre League and current season ticket holder.
Board member, Saline-Lindenberg Sister City organization and host family for the recent (August 29 - September 10) German visit to Saline
Current member, Saline-Brecon Friendship Guild (Sister City organization)

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

Grade school dance class
Member, High School chorale
I think both activities served to enrich my overall life experience, and cause me to appreciate these kinds of performances today even though I am not still involved.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

I think that all artistic activities serve to enlarge one's view of the world, better preparing them to be more constructive members of society in their future years.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Certainly entertainment venues that feature music, dance, plays and even art exhibits enliven the economic vitality of a community. They attract tourists and others who spend money for food, lodging and other incidentals. Look what the Ann Arbor Art Fair brings to the local community every year in terms of revenue. Look what Art Prize has done for the City of Grand Rapids as another fine example.

- 6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.**

Yes

Please explain your answer:

Public art enriches the experience of being in and enjoying a community. I think that communities are wise to consider investing in those things that make the community a richer place in which to live and recreate.

- 7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?**

If elected, I would carefully consider any opportunities that were brought to the City Council in light of current budgetary needs and obligations. I would certainly try to do my best to support arts and culture as they fit into the larger picture of community needs.

- 8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?**

Please see the above answer. I would certainly be supportive of efforts brought forth by persons responsible for constructing those budgets in support of the arts and cultural activities, and would have no problem expressing such a desire in the appropriate forum in an effort to help guide those shaping the budget. I believe that there are some legal restrictions regarding the use of public funding as well, and I would have to adhere to them once I become more cognizant about what they entail.

- 9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?**

Line item appropriations, tax based (millages, accommodations, sales etc.)

- 10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?**

No

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?



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Candidate's Full Name: Heidi McClelland

Candidate's Residency: Saline

Candidate's E-mail Address: heidimcclellandphotography@gmail.com

Office Candidate Seeks: City Council

District/Ward: Saline

Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

I am an artist or creative either professionally or as an amateur.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

So many it's hard to count and recall them but here are a few:

Saline Summerfest

Saline Celtic Festival

212 Art Center Art Shows- Saline

Local Plays and Concerts- Saline, Ann Arbor, Detroit

Saline Summer Music Series

Detroit Institute of Art Exhibits

Detroit Historical Museum

The Henry Ford

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

Again this is hard to quantify for me, there were so many. From a very young age I had a passion for the arts. Visual as well as theatrical. All of the classes influenced me in to who I am today. From the 2-D drawing classes to my college level Art History and Sculpture classes.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

A huge role. The arts for me is what makes the other stuff worth it. There are so many opportunities for art related careers now that I think keeping kids engaged in the arts will inspire them to want to learn more and continue their education through college and beyond.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Arts and Culture can play an enormous role in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County. From new restaurant openings to gallery shows, concerts etc. all of these things are draws to bring people to town and encourage new jobs and new opportunities.

6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.

Yes

Please explain your answer:

Yes. I am currently a member of the Saline Art and Culture Commission and while I think that the public should definitely invest in Art and Culture, I really feel that it is our job to use the budgets we are given to the greater good and to encourage the private sector in their endeavors to bring more Art and Culture to the county.

7. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?

I would continue to support the Saline Art and Culture Commission with the goals that they set forward.

8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?

I would support public funding in the budgeting and planning process. Again I think a lot can be accomplished while also being fiscally responsible.

9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?

Line item appropriations, appropriations distributed via grant programs

10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

Washtenaw County Caucus



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Candidate's Full Name: Linda TerHaar
Candidate's Residency: Saline
Candidate's E-mail Address: terhaar@gmail.com
Office Candidate Seeks: City Council
District/Ward: Saline
Party Affiliation (if applicable):

1. In regards to arts, culture and heritage, do you consider yourself any of the following:

I believe that availability and access to arts, cultural and heritage offerings in our community make our community a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit.

I am a consumer of arts, culture and/or heritage products and programs.

I am, personally, a donor to arts, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

2. What arts, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the past year?

Arts and Culture Committee, City of Saline

Downtown Music Series, Saline

Music Under the Arch, Saline

Friends of the Saline District Library, Saline

Art exhibits at the Saline District Library, Carrigan Cafe

Depot Museum and Rentschler Farm, Saline

Performances in the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, & Dance, Ann Arbor

Stratford Festival, Stratford, Ontario

3. Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or still influences you?

The program that had the most profound effect was instrumental music, in which I participated from grade 5 through graduation from high school. I believe it made possible my appreciation of music for the rest of my life.

4. What role do you think arts, culture, and the creative sector can play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and preparing more students for college enrollment and the 21st century workforce?

Participation in the arts, culture, and creative endeavors is critical for cognitive development and for involving students in their school and peer community.

5. What role can arts, culture, and the creative sector play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality?

Research has shown remarkable contributions to economic activity overall in communities that enjoy rich cultural offerings.

- 6. Do you support public investment in the creative economy? This includes arts, culture, heritage organizations and creative individuals.**

Yes

Please explain your answer:

It is important that the arts, cultural, and creative organizations and businesses are welcomed and encouraged to exist and be active in the community. This welcoming can take many forms.

- 7. If elected, what measureable action(s) will you take during your term to support public investment in our community's creative economy and support arts, culture, heritage organizations and businesses and creative individuals?**

I will support and participate in the continuing development of the City's Arts and Culture Committee; I will also continue to support the City's partnership with the Saline Area Historical Society.

- 8. What is your position on public funding for arts and culture and, if elected, how will your position be reflected during the budget/planning process?**

Budget support for the Arts and Culture Committee; for the City's continued investments in our historical museums; for the development of Salt Springs Park, an important historic site recently re-discovered within the City. I would also support efforts to find grant funding for cultural activities and facilities.

- 9. If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds?**

Appropriations as described in item 8

- 10. If elected, would you accept an invitation to become a member in an arts, culture and heritage caucus?**

Yes

If yes, from which caucus would you accept an invitation?

Washtenaw County Caucus
