



The Arts Alliance's Washtenaw County Candidate Survey Responses November 7, 2017 General Election

Presented verbatim without editing.

Presented in alphabetical order by community

Survey responses as of October 28, 2017

For more information contact The Arts Alliance: info@@a3arts.org or
734.213.2733

The Arts Alliance annually surveys all candidates running for office in Washtenaw County about their views on the arts & creative industries, in regards to public policy and investment. All candidate responses and non-responses are released verbatim for publication before the election to the media and The Arts Alliance's constituents –Washtenaw County residents passionate about arts, culture and the creative sector.

The following candidates DID reply to The Arts Alliance's survey

NAME ON BALLOT	DISTRICT	OFFICE SOUGHT	PARTY
▪ Anne Bannister	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 1	Democratic
▪ Diane Giannola	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 4	No Party Affiliation
▪ Jared Hoffert	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 2	Democratic
▪ Jane Lumm	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 2	No Party Affiliation
▪ Chip Smith	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 5	Democratic
▪ Rick Catherman	Chelsea City	Council Member	Non-Partisan

The following candidates DID NOT reply to The Arts Alliance's survey

NAME ON BALLOT	DISTRICT	OFFICE SOUGHT	PARTY
Cheri Albertson	Chelsea City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Tony Iannelli	Chelsea City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Melissa Johnson	Chelsea City	Mayor	Non-Partisan
Zachary Ackerman	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 3	Democratic
John E. Eaton	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 4	Democratic
Ali Ramlawi	City of Ann Arbor	Council Member - Ward 5	No Party Affiliation
Jim Carson	Dexter City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Paul Cousins	Dexter City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Donna L. Fisher	Dexter City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Julie A. Knight	Dexter City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Cole Miller	Dexter City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Shawn W. Keough	Dexter City	Mayor	Non-Partisan
Larry Biederman	Milan City	Board of Trustees Member	Non-Partisan
Andrew Douglas	Milan City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Ann L. Gee	Milan City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Douglas A. Gilson	Milan City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Sean M. Jenkins	Milan City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Ed Kolar	Milan City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Owen Diaz	Milan City	Mayor	Non-Partisan
Dominic N. Hamden	Milan City	Mayor	Non-Partisan
John J. Ceo, Jr.	Saline City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Heidi McClelland	Saline City	Council Member	Non-Partisan
Linda TerHaar	Saline City	Council Member	Non-Partisan

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The Arts Alliance's 2017 Washtenaw County Candidate Survey Responses

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Candidate's name as it appears on the ballot **Anne Bannister**

Running for **Council Member - Ward 1 in City of Ann Arbor**

Party affiliation **Democratic**

1. Please indicate all that apply to you:

- **Yes** - I believe that the arts and creative industries in our community make it a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit.
- **Yes** - My constituents and my district benefit from access to art, cultural and heritage offerings in our community.
- **Yes** - I am a regular financial donor to art, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
- **Yes** - I am an artist or creative amateur/professional.
- **No** - I serve on the board of an arts or creative nonprofit business.
- **No** - I am an investor in a creative industry business.
- **Not applicable to me** - I do not consume, support, practice or participate in any art, cultural or heritage activities.

2. What art, creative, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the please year? Please include locations.

Over the past year, I've attended numerous musical performances, educational lectures, historic district commission meetings, museums and galleries, and simply walked around Ann Arbor's streets and parks and enjoyed our various public art displays and installations. Two of the key museums in our City are in Ward One, namely our African American Cultural & Historical Museum (<http://aachmuseum.org>) and the Museum on Main Street (<http://washtenawhistory.org>).

3. My preK-12 education included arts and creative education.

Yes

4. Thinking back to your own preK-12 education, what art/cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or continues to influence you?

My family moved to Ann Arbor in 1974 when I was in the fourth grade, and through the A2 Public Schools I enjoyed participating in multiple art/cultural activities, from musical instruments (trombone, cello, piano) to dance classes, sewing classes, and a keen interest in dress-up, fashion,

color combinations, and activities involving the outdoors and nature. Those early experiences laid the foundation for a lifelong interest, and enjoyment and appreciation of an array of art forms and cultural experiences.

5. What roles do you think the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative sector play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, preparing students for college and working in the 21st century?

The arts and creative industries are valuable in supporting students overall wellbeing and providing them a well-rounded and balanced education. The skills they learn in creating their own artistic expressions, will add to their productivity and happiness throughout their lives.

6. What roles do or can the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative and heritage sectors play in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County?

The arts and creative industries, in all their forms, play a valuable role in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County. From Ann Arbor's art fairs, to our museums, to the lectures and events through the UM Stamps School of Art & Design, to the public art, and all the musicians, performers, dancers, and local artists, they all contribute greatly to Ann Arbor's quality of life.

7. Please explain your position on public policy and investment regarding nonprofit and for profit arts and creative industries businesses.

As a pending newly elected Council member, I look forward to learning more from The Arts Alliance about your preferred public policy and investment in the arts and creative industries. Let's meet in November/December to have our first of many meetings to discuss the landscape and your priorities.

8. What is your position on the public investment in the arts and creative industries including arts, culture and heritage?

As a pending newly elected official, I'm in the process of educating myself on what has already been considered a success with regard to public investment in the arts and creative industries, and on what The Arts Alliance would recommend for opportunities in the future.

9. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to influence policy and investment in the creative sector to specifically spur economic growth, talent retention, business/resident/visitor attraction, education and improvement of life/place quality?

As a candidate for Ann Arbor City Council - Ward One, I am enthusiastically seeking input from The Arts Alliance on how best a newly elected official can learn more about measurable actions! Since winning the primary election in August, I've been meeting with community leaders and neighborhood groups with multiple interests, from responsible development, to affordable housing and environmental initiatives. I look forward to meeting with The Arts Alliance in November/December to discuss your priorities and ways that I can engage, especially in activities related to Ward One.

10. If elected, how will your position be reflected in your committee assignments, policy positions and budget appropriations?

Other

For the reader's reference, possible answers included:

<input type="checkbox"/> Line item appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Percent for art/culture ordinances
<input type="checkbox"/> Appropriations distributed via grant programs	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not support public investment in arts, culture and/or heritage.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

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

Yes

If you answered yes to #11, which caucus? **Michigan Creative Industry &/or Arts Education Caucus & Washtenaw County Arts & Creative Industry & Arts Education Caucus (to be formed)**

~~~This completes The Arts Alliance 2017 candidate survey for Anne Bannister~~~

**The Arts Alliance** is a leader championing, supporting and advocating for the Arts and Creative Industries in Washtenaw County, MI — arts and creative individuals, organizations and businesses—to ensure that the greater Ann Arbor region remains a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit. Broad-based engagement and the Washtenaw County Cultural Master Plan informs the work of The Arts Alliance - some of which is behind the scenes such as conducting needs assessments for arts and creative education, administering grants and managing research projects while other work is more visible such as managing public art and design projects or presenting annual awards for excellence. The Arts Alliance is an essential partner with the business, tourism, philanthropic, government, education and other sectors on numerous programs to integrate art and culture in all aspects of civic life of the county. For more information contact The Arts Alliance: [www.A3Arts.org](http://www.A3Arts.org) 734.213.2733



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Candidate's name as it appears on the ballot **Diane Giannola**

Running for **Council Member - Ward 4 in City of Ann Arbor**

Party affiliation **No Party Affiliation**

1. Please indicate all that apply to you:

- **yes** - I believe that the arts and creative industries in our community make it a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit.
- **yes** - My constituents and my district benefit from access to art, cultural and heritage offerings in our community.
- **Yes** - I am a regular financial donor to art, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
- - I am an artist or creative amateur/professional.
- **No** - I serve on the board of an arts or creative nonprofit business.
- **No** - I am an investor in a creative industry business.
- **Not applicable to me** - I do not consume, support, practice or participate in any art, cultural or heritage activities.

2. What art, creative, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the please year? Please include locations.

**Museums, performance art, art fairs, craft fairs, concerts, musical theater, film festivals.....all throughout the Ann Arbor and Detroit area. I am a member of the Michigan Theater. I am an avid fan of the Ann Arbor Art fair and spend all 4 days perusing the fair**

3. My preK-12 education included arts and creative education.

**Yes**

4. Thinking back to your own preK-12 education, what art/cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or continues to influence you?

**Honestly, I did not participate in any non-mandatory art programs throughout school except for choir in 5th grade. The mandatory art and music programs just proved to me that I have no artistic or musical ability whatsoever. LOL**

**I am actually a scientist and did medical research for 25 yrs before changing career paths into business. Although I am not the least bit artistic and creative myself, I thoroughly enjoy attending art programs, concerts, and performances as a spectator. Performance art, film, and eccentric pieces of handmade art are what I prefer.**

5. What roles do you think the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative sector play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, preparing students for college and working in the 21st century?

**I fully support the creative arts in education. A well-rounded education should include the creative arts along with science, math, language, and the liberal arts (and more). We are all good at different things and school is where we discover what our strengths are. However, just because you have strength in one area does not mean you can't appreciate the other areas.**

**The creative arts aren't just in the curriculum for fun or as an extra curricular activity. The arts help your brain learn how to think in a different way than the analytical science and math classes do. Even if you are not very good at art or music, the exposure helps transform the way you think. The same goes for talented artistic people who might hate math and science. Children need a well-rounded education.**

6. What roles do or can the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative and heritage sectors play in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County?

**The major role that the creative arts play in Washtenaw's economic growth and vitality is in attraction. The creative arts make people want to live here because they make it fun to live her. The creative arts make Washtenaw County an interesting place to live. Quite often, Ann Arbor is described as a small city with big city culture. Our large creative industry helps make that so. I would love for Ann Arbor to have an annual Fringe Festival in August. I used to attend the Philadelphia festival every year and it was quite impressive. This type of festival would not only add to the culture of the city but would allow local artists to show off their talents while bringing in tourist dollars that can help the local economy.**

7. Please explain your position on public policy and investment regarding nonprofit and for profit arts and creative industries businesses.

**I support public investment in the creative arts because the arts are not only a big part of our quality of life but also play a role in our local economy. How much investment and for which organizations varies depending on the issue. I do draw a distinction between non-profit and for-profit businesses though. I am not likely to support public investment in a for profit business.**

8. What is your position on the public investment in the arts and creative industries including arts, culture and heritage?

**As I said above, I support public investment in the creative arts because the arts are not only a big part of our quality of life but also play a role in our local economy. How much investment and for which organizations varies depending on the issue.**

9. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to influence policy and investment in the creative sector to specifically spur economic growth, talent retention, business/resident/visitor attraction, education and improvement of life/place quality?

**I would advocate for the arts and would vote in favor of financially supporting certain art or cultural events.**

-Continued-

10. If elected, how will your position be reflected in your committee assignments, policy positions and budget appropriations?

**Line item appropriations**

**Appropriations distributed via grant programs**

**Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc. )**

*For the reader's reference, possible answers included:*

|                                                                                   |                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Line item appropriations</i>                          | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Percent for art/culture ordinances</i>                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Appropriations distributed via grant programs</i>     | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I do not support public investment in arts, culture and/or heritage.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc.)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other</i>                                                                |

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

**Yes**

If you answered yes to #11, which caucus?

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 ~~~This completes The Arts Alliance 2017 candidate survey for Diane Giannola~~~

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Candidate's name as it appears on the ballot **Jared Hoffert**

Running for **Council Member - Ward 2 in City of Ann Arbor**

Party affiliation **Democratic**

1. Please indicate all that apply to you:

- **yes** - I believe that the arts and creative industries in our community make it a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit.
- **Yes** - My constituents and my district benefit from access to art, cultural and heritage offerings in our community.
- **Yes** - I am a regular financial donor to art, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
- **Yes** - I am an artist or creative amateur/professional.
- **Yes** - I serve on the board of an arts or creative nonprofit business.
- **No** - I am an investor in a creative industry business.
- **Not applicable to me** - I do not consume, support, practice or participate in any art, cultural or heritage activities.

2. What art, creative, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the please year? Please include locations.

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre - Performed and sat on the Board of Directors

Croswell Opera House (Adrian, MI)- Performed and participated in advisory committee

Opera Modo (Detroit) - Performed

Ann Arbor Art Fair

Plymouth Art Fair

Sonic Lunch (Ann Arbor, MI)

University of Michigan Men's Glee Club - Alumni

Attend Performances at The Ark (Ann Arbor)

University of Michigan Musical Theatre and Drama programs (Alumni and attend performances)

Top of the Park (Ann Arbor)

Ann Arbor Musical Theatre Works - Company members

Flipside Art Studio (Ann Arbor) family attends many workshops and events

Thurston Players (Ann Arbor neighborhood community theatre)

Daughter is enrolled in Piano Pedagogy program at UM

3. My preK-12 education included arts and creative education.
Yes

4. Thinking back to your own preK-12 education, what art/cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or continues to influence you?

I started my journey in the arts early with learning piano at age 6. In elementary school we had music and art as part of our "specials" which helped round out a full primary education.

Eventually, when the opportunity to learn another instrument presented itself, I enrolled in band and learned Trombone starting in the 5th grade. Along with instrumental music, I sang in choir through middle and high school. I then became more involved in theatre starting in high school.

All of this helped me form my choice to pursue musical theatre as a career. Although I am no longer listing the arts as my current full time profession, I still find time to perform, and advise those pursuing it. Our daughter has started leaning towards an enjoyment of these things. She is currently learning piano and harp at age 7 and wants very much to be onstage.

My experience in the arts also helps me in my day to day life. It has taught me how to think more creatively and collaboratively. I think these skills along with the ability to communicate with others to achieve a common goal (even when/if those others don't start from the same perspective) are invaluable.

5. What roles do you think the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative sector play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, preparing students for college and working in the 21st century?

The arts inspire the creativity in a child (and adults) that otherwise might remain bottled up. A robust music and art program in the schools give children and young adults an outlet for their creative sides and an alternative way to communicate. This is invaluable in terms of letting a person evolve their creative problem solving, communication and collaboration skills.

6. What roles do or can the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative and heritage sectors play in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County?

Theater, music, and visual arts play an important role in Ann Arbor's culture, and frankly it's good business. It also helps give our residents another source of pride. According to the Ann Arbor Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, the region attracts 5.6 million visitors annually. In a recent AAA/ CVB survey, visitors indicated that arts & cultural programs, events and festivals are the No. 2 reason they travel to Washtenaw County.

We need to work with local, county, and regional organizations to help broaden our status as a cultural hub. Supporting quality infrastructure like smooth roads or cultural amenities like public art is not an either/or question. Cities succeed when they are strong. How many great cities do you know that lack arts and culture?

What does this mean for Ann Arbor specifically?

Regional Economic Vitality: According to Americans for the Arts, "arts businesses and creative employees stimulate innovation, strengthen the region's competitiveness in the global marketplace, and play an important role in building and sustaining economic vibrancy."

Job Creation: Employment in the creative industries includes companies (establishments) and individuals engaged in employment in the creative arts (shown as non-employer establishments). The creative sector represents 7.6% of all Washtenaw County jobs as measured by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Data.

7. Please explain your position on public policy and investment regarding nonprofit and for profit arts and creative industries businesses.

As a former board member of various non-profit arts organizations, I have seen firsthand the challenges that these groups confront. There is a lot of work to be done to keep afloat and viable. I would advocate for support of these organizations wherever and however possible.

8. What is your position on the public investment in the arts and creative industries including arts, culture and heritage?

It has been shown that the arts based organizations have a positive effect on our local, regional, state and national economy. Not only in the number of jobs created, but also the influx of non residents to the area that patronize other establishments as part of their attendance at artistic/creative events. I would advocate in support of the arts and creative industries as part of overall economic growth and prosperity. Growing this sector can only enhance our community.

9. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to influence policy and investment in the creative sector to specifically spur economic growth, talent retention, business/resident/visitor attraction, education and improvement of life/place quality?

If elected, I will bring a proactive voice and conversation around the value of the artistic community as it relates to business and economic growth in our city and region. I would endeavor to reach out to local and regional groups including the Arts Alliance to work with these organizations to create new, viable and sustainable growth in this sector.

10. If elected, how will your position be reflected in your committee assignments, policy positions and budget appropriations?

Appropriations distributed via grant programs

Percent for art/culture ordinances

For the reader's reference, possible answers included:

| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Line item appropriations | <input type="checkbox"/> Percent for art/culture ordinances |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriations distributed via grant programs | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not support public investment in arts, culture and/or heritage. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

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

Yes

If you answered yes to #11, which caucus? **Washtenaw County Arts & Creative Industry & Arts Education Caucus (to be formed)**

 ~~~This completes The Arts Alliance 2017 candidate survey for Jared Hoffert~~~

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Candidate's name as it appears on the ballot **Jane Lumm**

Running for **Council Member - Ward 2 in City of Ann Arbor**

Party affiliation **No Party Affiliation**

1. Please indicate all that apply to you:

- **Yes** - I believe that the arts and creative industries in our community make it a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit.
- **Yes** - My constituents and my district benefit from access to art, cultural and heritage offerings in our community.
- **Yes** - I am a regular financial donor to art, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
- - I am an artist or creative amateur/professional.
- **No** - I serve on the board of an arts or creative nonprofit business.
- **No** - I am an investor in a creative industry business.
- **Not applicable to me** - I do not consume, support, practice or participate in any art, cultural or heritage activities.

2. What art, creative, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the please year? Please include locations.

**Attended/supported productions and events at the Power Center, Top of the Park/Summer Arts Festival, Purple Rose Theater, UMS, MI Theater. Supported events and fundraisers for The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Ann Arbor Art Center; attended/supported AA Street Art Fair, and support, through membership, The Arts Alliance and MI Theater. Also patronize various local galleries including the Ann Arbor Art Center Gallery and AA Potters Guild. In prior years supported the Coleman Jewett art project, attended several Creative Economy Policy Summits, the Canoe Imagine Art Installation celebration, 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 and other Smithsonian Institution Galleries (e.g., National Portrait Gallery), support Civil War Land Preservation Trust, National Parks Foundation, etc.) outside Ann Arbor.**

3. My preK-12 education included arts and creative education.

**Yes**

4. Thinking back to your own preK-12 education, what art/cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or continues to influence 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, earthen ware (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.**

5. What roles do you think the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative sector play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, preparing students for college and working in the 21st century?

**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. The Arts & Cultural Education Integration for Student Excellence (ACEISE) WISD collaborative offers critical equal access to arts and creative education opportunities for Washtenaw County students, and also serves as a model of how the arts and creative sector support education achievement and success and improve child welfare. Exposure to the arts affords opportunities for expression and ways to excel that, STEAM programs and research has shown, 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. Washtenaw County is recognized by the State as a high ranked county 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.**

6. What roles do or can the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative and heritage sectors play in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County?

**Ann Arbor's arts and culture and the creative and heritage sectors 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, local businesses, and networking opportunities for expanding commerce and investment in our community. Economic Impact Studies (e.g., SPARK's 2008 Creative Economic Analysis, AAACF's 2016 Economic Creative Nonprofit Impact Study) also document the significant job and creative industry impact and economic development relationship. Arts and culture development and economic development are interrelated.**

7. Please explain your position on public policy and investment regarding nonprofit and for profit arts and creative industries businesses.

**I support public policies that support, and investment in, the creative economy, arts and creative industries/businesses. I believe our community's arts and creative sectors contribute immensely to our community's quality of life. Personally, I am a lover of art (visual and performance) and have supported, both financially and as a volunteer, various art/creative organizations 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.**

**I would continue to support the City's current public policy/investment direction -- e.g., funding support for community events, organizations, creative industries (e.g., through the City's contributions to SPARK and the LDFA for business accelerator support, talent training, et. al. talent attraction and retention services).**

**The public policy investment/funding question is also a community funding proposition. I believe that if any community can and should be able to generate and leverage sufficient private investment in the arts and creative industries, it would be Ann Arbor. The revised public art ordinance that council adopted and I supported 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. Successful projects like the McKinley and Oxford Companies' downtown mural project are commendable examples of engaging and promoting the business and artistic community connection and investment in and support for our local and very talented artistic community.**

8. What is your position on the public investment in the arts and creative industries including arts, culture and heritage?

**As noted in my response to the previous question(s), I recognize the value of public support for the arts and creative industries, and 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 (e.g., the PowerArt! project that supported local artists).**

**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 the other public investment-related questions, I believe if any community should be able to generate sufficient private funding in support of the arts and creative community, 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. The Coleman Jewett project and McKinley and Oxford Companies' mural projects serve as successful examples, and we also have excellent examples of private funding and investment in the arts in the University community. Local arts and heritage patrons like Ann Arbor's own Ray Detter conceived of, and 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. Festifools was the brainchild of one very creative individual, is largely privately funded, 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. Investment in creative projects/installations similar to the "park benches around the world" concept also offer opportunities for public/private investment collaborations that would support local talent and economic development.**

**Another untapped public sector investment/support opportunity that deserves consistent and greater focus and support is our local and very talented artistic/creative community. Ann Arbor can and should continue to do more to showcase our many talented, established and emerging**

local artists and the creative community, and with The Michigan Council for Art and Cultural Affairs' (MCACA) continuing and strong financial investment, financial support for local, county-based, arts and creative industries is critically and importantly leveraged.

9. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to influence policy and investment in the creative sector to specifically spur economic growth, talent retention, business/resident/visitor attraction, education and improvement of life/place quality?

As previously noted, I would continue to support the City's current policy and 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/installations -- rather than large budget, permanent art installations -- provides a bigger economic growth (viz., job creation, talent retention, visitor attraction, quality of life improvement) return for the public art dollar/investment. I also believe more opportunities for community engagement in the artistic and creative community sectors will be derived with a focus on support for organizations, events and local talent driven initiatives.

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 and creative industry products 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' and students' 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, visitor attraction, education, and economic growth.

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 the wider creative sector, and give artists and the creative community venues for selling and promoting their art and artistic and creative productions.

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

10. If elected, how will your position be reflected in your committee assignments, policy positions and budget appropriations?

**Appropriations distributed via grant programs**

**Other: public private partnerships**

*For the reader's reference, possible answers included:*

|                                                                            |                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Line item appropriations                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Percent for art/culture ordinances                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriations distributed via grant programs     | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not support public investment in arts, culture and/or heritage. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                                                |

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

**Yes**

If you answered yes to #11, which caucus? **Washtenaw County Arts & Creative Industry & Arts Education Caucus (to be formed)**

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~~~This completes The Arts Alliance 2017 candidate survey for Jane Lumm~~~

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The Arts Alliance's 2017 Washtenaw County Candidate Survey Responses

November 7, 2017 General Election Primary

Presented verbatim without editing.

Presented in alphabetical order by candidate

Survey responses as of October 28, 2017

The Arts Alliance annually surveys all candidates running for office in Washtenaw County about their views on the arts & creative industries, in regards to public policy and investment. All candidate responses and non-responses are released verbatim for publication before the election to the media and The Arts Alliance's constituents – Washtenaw County residents who are passionate about arts, culture and the creative sector.

Candidate's name as it appears on the ballot **Chip Smith**

Running for **Council Member - Ward 5 in City of Ann Arbor**

Party affiliation **Democratic**

1. Please indicate all that apply to you:

- **Yes** - I believe that the arts and creative industries in our community make it a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit.
- **Yes** - My constituents and my district benefit from access to art, cultural and heritage offerings in our community.
- **Yes** - I am a regular financial donor to art, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
- - I am an artist or creative amateur/professional.
- **Yes** - I serve on the board of an arts or creative nonprofit business.
- **Yes** - I am an investor in a creative industry business.
- **Not applicable to me** - I do not consume, support, practice or participate in any art, cultural or heritage activities.

2. What art, creative, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the please year? Please include locations.

Numerous concerts at the Michigan Theater and Ark; Multiple University Musical Society performances; Ann Arbor Symphony performances at Hill Auditorium, the Michigan Theater, and the JCC; Multiple movies at the Michigan Theater (we have a gold membership); Pop-X; Top of the Park; Pioneer High School plays and band performances; Summer Festival performances; Westside Art Hop; Multiple shows at the Ann Arbor Art Center; Multiple events at the Ann Arbor Public Library; Multiple visits to the UMMS. Just a quick top of the head recount of the past year. Clearly, art and cultural activities are an incredibly important part of our family's engagement within Ann Arbor and southeast Michigan.

3. My preK-12 education included arts and creative education.

Yes

4. Thinking back to your own preK-12 education, what art/cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or continues to influence you?

The creative arts were included and a major part of my K-12 education. I participated extensively in theater and performing arts. That participation had a big impact on me - in terms of confidence, in terms of opening my mind to other ideas, and in terms of learning different approaches to dealing with situations and problems. I believe this was critical to my personal development.

5. What roles do you think the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative sector play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, preparing students for college and working in the 21st century?

Based on my own experience and research I've read, the arts and creative sector play a vital role in education priorities. In looking at issues like dropout rates, the achievement gap and college preparedness - creative arts and the humanities are indispensable. They often provide a different productive outlet for those students who may be struggling in some areas, they build confidence, they encourage and reward collaboration, exploration, curiosity. They build trust. They are essential.

6. What roles do or can the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative and heritage sectors play in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County?

I steadfastly believe that arts and culture are not just contributing to our economic growth within the County, but a major driver of economic growth. The number of cultural events and activities that draws people to the County is what makes us such a unique place - the amenities of a big city with the quality of life of a small midwestern city. As the economy of Washtenaw County has evolved, the role arts and culture plays have increased in importance. This sector of the economy needs to be nurtured, encouraged, and supported just like the tech sector, or automotive sector, or life sciences sector.

7. Please explain your position on public policy and investment regarding nonprofit and for profit arts and creative industries businesses.

It's quite simple - I support public funding for both nonprofit and for-profit arts and creative industries. Supporting these businesses supports a foundation of our county economic growth. There is public support for business recruitment, industrial development, and housing. I believe that arts and cultural businesses should receive that same type of support.

8. What is your position on the public investment in the arts and creative industries including arts, culture and heritage?

These public investments in the arts and culture improve our quality of life, our economy and help to define who we are

9. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to influence policy and investment in the creative sector to specifically spur economic growth, talent retention, business/resident/visitor attraction, education and improvement of life/place quality?

I will hopefully continue to be the City Council liaison to the Public Art Commission in Ann Arbor. I will also continue to advocate for public funding and support for art and cultural institutions and events. Further, I will support public investments in those cultural institutions that are vital to our arts and cultural sector like the Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor Art Center, Hands-On Museum etc.

10. If elected, how will your position be reflected in your committee assignments, policy positions and budget appropriations?

Appropriations distributed via grant programs

Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc.)

Percent for art/culture ordinances

For the reader's reference, possible answers for #10 included:

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Line item appropriations</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Percent for art/culture ordinances</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Appropriations distributed via grant programs</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I do not support public investment in arts, culture and/or heritage.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc.)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other</i> |

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

Yes

If you answered yes to #11, which caucus?

~~~This completes The Arts Alliance 2017 candidate survey for Chip Smith~~~

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## The Arts Alliance's 2017 Washtenaw County Candidate Survey Responses

November 7, 2017 General Election Primary

Presented verbatim without editing.

Presented in alphabetical order by candidate

Survey responses as of October 28, 2017

The Arts Alliance annually surveys all candidates running for office in Washtenaw County about their views on the arts & creative industries, in regards to public policy and investment. All candidate responses and non-responses are released verbatim for publication before the election to the media and The Arts Alliance's constituents – Washtenaw County residents who are passionate about arts, culture and the creative sector.

Candidate's name as it appears on the ballot **Rick Catherman**

Running for **Council Member in Chelsea City**

Party affiliation **Non-Partisan**

1. Please indicate all that apply to you:

- **yes** - I believe that the arts and creative industries in our community make it a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit.
- **yes** - My constituents and my district benefit from access to art, cultural and heritage offerings in our community.
- - I am a regular financial donor to art, cultural and/or heritage organizations.
- **yes** - I am an artist or creative amateur/professional.
- **No** - I serve on the board of an arts or creative nonprofit business.
- **No** - I am an investor in a creative industry business.
- **Not applicable to me** - I do not consume, support, practice or participate in any art, cultural or heritage activities.

2. What art, creative, cultural or heritage activities have you and/or your family members attended, participated in or supported in the please year? Please include locations.

**I am a music educator and take part in music activities in my community, in Washtenaw County, and across the State of Michigan on a regular basis.**

3. My preK-12 education included arts and creative education.

**Yes**

4. Thinking back to your own preK-12 education, what art/cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in? In what way, if any, do you believe your participation influenced or continues to influence you?

**I took advantage of the music education opportunities (a member of my school band) during my pre-K12 education and the teachers I had throughout my participation had a strong and lasting influence on me as I decided to study music in college and have been a music educator the past 28 years.**

5. What roles do you think the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative sector play in supporting key education priorities such as closing the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, preparing students for college and working in the 21st century?

**Arts (music, theater, dance, and visual arts) are critical in the development of our young people and must maintain a place in our schools. Arts education programs should be fully funded in our schools, and should be held as high a priority as any other discipline or course of study.**

6. What roles do or can the arts, creative industries, cultural/creative and heritage sectors play in the economic growth and vitality of Washtenaw County?

**I truly believe that a community where the arts (music, theater, dance, and visual arts) are embraced enhances the quality of life for all people, and a thriving arts culture positively impacts and improves all areas of a community including improving economic growth.**

7. Please explain your position on public policy and investment regarding nonprofit and for profit arts and creative industries businesses.

**I have been active in music education policy and am the co-founder of a music education governmental affairs policy organization called Partnership for Music Education Policy Development. This organization works to build relationships with education policy stakeholders including state legislators, monitors education policy, and recommends policy and legislation that strengthens the place of music in our schools. I strongly support investment in arts education (music, theater, dance, and visual arts) in our public schools.**

8. What is your position on the public investment in the arts and creative industries including arts, culture and heritage?

**I believe that a community where the public values the arts (music, theater, dance, and visual arts) and arts education will be a community that realizes a greater quality of life for all of its residents.**

9. If elected, what measurable action(s) will you take during your term to influence policy and investment in the creative sector to specifically spur economic growth, talent retention, business/resident/visitor attraction, education and improvement of life/place quality?

**If elected as Chelsea City Council member where I will represent a community that has a history of supporting the arts (music, theater, dance, and visual arts) I will continue that tradition and advocate for arts activities in and around our areat that will enhance the quality of life of our residents.**

10. If elected, how will your position be reflected in your committee assignments, policy positions and budget appropriations?

**Other**

*For the reader's reference, possible answers included:*

|                                                                            |                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Line item appropriations                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Percent for art/culture ordinances                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriations distributed via grant programs     | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not support public investment in arts, culture and/or heritage. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax based (millages, accommodations, sales, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                                                |

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

**Yes**

**If you answered yes to #11, which caucus? Michigan Creative Industry &/or Arts Education Caucus & Washtenaw County Arts & Creative Industry & Arts Education Caucus (to be formed)**

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~~~This completes The Arts Alliance 2017 candidate survey for Rick Catherman~~~

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