



ARTS & CULTURE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Please take a moment to answer the DACAC Arts & Culture Questionnaire for City Council Candidates. Be as thorough as possible as these responses will be shared not only with the general membership, but also with the public and posted in its entirety online at DallasNeedstheArts.com. Provide your answers in the space indicated; space will automatically adjust to accommodate your complete answers.

Please return these completed questionnaires to AVD@ArtsDallas.org as soon as possible. Thank you!

#DallasNeedstheArts #ArtsVoteDallas #TXArtsMatter

YOU AND THE ARTS

Give us a sense about your relationship with the arts.

QUESTIONS: Is there an arts genre or form you particularly enjoy, and what is it? What arts and cultural events or performances have you attended in the last year? What arts organizations or commissions have you supported as a Board member, volunteer, contribution or season ticket holder. Please list cultural groups and experiences, even if not in Dallas.

I like all African Art, Dallas Black Dance and Asian art. I have participated and enjoyed numerous arts/cultural events ranging from Arts Week events and discussions, Perot Museum, Dallas Black Dance Theater, AT&T PAC, Bishop Arts Theatre, Dallas Performance Hall Winspear Opera House, Wylie Theatre, African American Museum, and Latino Cultural Center events.

ADVOCACY

The role of an elected leader is in large part being a cheerleader for the City of Dallas and the things that make our city special. Dallas mayors such as Annette Strauss and Mike Rawlings, and former Councilmember Veletta Lill understood the importance of the arts to the city's economic development, tourism, vibrancy, cultural brand and quality of life. (See attached one-pager.) They made the arts a centerpiece of their agenda and legacy.

QUESTION: What role do you envision for yourself as an elected Dallas leader when it comes to the arts? Where will arts and culture fit within your priorities? And what are the ways you would advocate for the arts in and out of Dallas?

I feel that it is necessary to increase and support public and private partnerships in the art community. Our art budget is limited so it is extremely important to leverage our access to partnerships that will enhance creation/expression of art on all levels. I will support public and private funding to be used to create more opportunities for various art forms available to all neighborhoods and citizens.

EQUITY

*The 2018 Dallas Cultural Plan – just approved **unanimously** by the City Council – placed Equity at the top of priorities for the arts. This includes equity in funding, providing cultural experiences in underserved parts of our city, supporting both the new and emerging arts community as well as our historic institutions. Additional resources will be required to reach this goal.*

QUESTION: Given the many needs of the city, how will you support the goal of sustaining and growing the City's current investment in the arts, and ensure the Cultural Plan does not gather dust on the shelf?

If elected again I will continue to support the efforts of the are community for fair funding in our budget. I believe as a city we should support the efforts of the Cultural Plan in a way that it is able to generate funds to offset a great portion of operation costs.

HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

To help fund its implementation, the Cultural Plan calls for an increase in the arts portion of the City's Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) to align with peer cities. HOT funds are paid by tourists, not Dallas taxpayers. Currently, 2.6% is dedicated to the arts (about \$1.6M.) Houston is 19%, San Antonio is 11%, Austin is 15%.



QUESTION: Would you support a *significant* increase of the arts portion of the HOT to create and sustain a major cultural tourism marketing program, repairs and maintenance of neglected cultural venues, and increased support for arts programs that add to the cultural vibrancy and attractiveness of Dallas as a destination?

I would support a significant increase in the Hotel Occupancy Tax if it allows us to remain competitive with other convention and tourism cities. Also, I support creating better efforts to track the revenue generated from the increased amount to pay for the normal operations of the cultural venues and programs.

ARTS IN YOUR DISTRICT

Name three areas of your council district where you think arts and cultural programs and experiences are most needed and would be welcomed the most.

Yes, I believe arts and culture should be experience throughout the city. I have been advocating for more black box theatres in the Southern Dallas. In District 8 the three areas are in Red Bird, Pleasant Grove, and Kleberg-Rylie that I believe should have an enhance arts and cultural experience. This will give artist an opportunity to engage an underserved audience and expose communities to art that would not travel to the downtown arts district.

Please return completed questionnaire to AVD@ArtsDallas.org as soon as possible.

Join us for a Candidate Reception for all Mayoral and City Council Candidates at The Perot on 4/29 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM