



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 dacac@artsdallas.org by April 17, 2023. Thank you!

#DallasNeedstheArts #ArtsVoteDallas #TXArtsMatter

YOU AND THE ARTS

Give us a sense about your relationship with the arts.

- *Is there an arts form you particularly enjoy? What is it?*
- *What talents and/or history do you have in the arts. Include any arts organizations or commissions have you supported as a member, volunteers, contributor or season ticket holder?*
- *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 love attending shows, from the symphony to theater, it is wonderful to be able to immerse in other people's creativity. Additionally, I believe strongly in supporting artists at every level of exposure and encouraging young artists to explore every career opportunity in the arts. Though my leadership has not involved arts organizations, I always promote opportunities and funding.

ADVOCACY

The non-profit arts and culture sector plays a big role in the Dallas economy. The most recent study showed almost a \$1 billion economic impact, supporting 33,000 jobs, driving cultural tourism, attracting relocations and talent, boosting education outcomes, and improving the quality of life across Dallas. Given this wide impact, we hope our elected leaders will help advocate for this sector.

- *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?*
- *Will you help ensure that arts and cultural issues continue to be included in the City's legislative agenda for Austin and Washington?*

As I have said many times, the arts are the soul of our city. It is our responsibility as elected representatives to feed and nurture our arts and culture. It is also our responsibility to embed arts and culture into every possible aspect of city work, from employee activities to public infrastructure projects. I will always support the legislative agenda for arts and culture.



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2024 BOND PROGRAM

The City of Dallas owns 19 cultural venues and centers. The needs inventory for maintenance and repairs on these facilities is projected to grow \$32M - from \$89M in 2017 to \$120M by 2024. Yet the bond office’s proposal is only for \$15M. It’s a cultural pot hole that is only getting bigger and bigger. These are venues that generate tax revenues, support jobs, and draw cultural tourism – IF you keep them maintained.

- *Do you feel cultural facilities should be a part of the 2024 Bond Programs?*
- *If not, how would you work to get the needs inventory reduced and heading in a positive direction?*
- *If so, would you work to ensure the 2024 Bond Program includes cultural facilities at a significant level?*

Cultural facilities are an essential part of the bond program. These opportunities are infrequent and must be used to enhance the quality of life in Dallas. In addition to the maintenance and repair challenges, we must use the 2024 to expand the arts across the city in terms of facilities. I have not seen the needs inventory, but we must make sure our cultural arts facilities do not deteriorate. Arts and culture should never be seen as secondary.

ARTS FUNDING

To help achieve a more equitable distribution of cultural resources, the City now uses a hybrid mix of funding from both the General Fund and a growing portion of the Hotel Occupancy Tax (on track to reach 15% by 2027.) This mix allows for a wide range of programs, from arts education to exhibitions and performances, individual artists and arts organizations, and more.

- *Would you work to continue this hybrid funding model and support the City’s support of the arts?*

The hybrid mix of funding is an excellent approach and should be continued.

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.*



District 11 is a cultural arts desert. There is a desperate need for facilities that attract not only North Dallas residents, but all residents of North Texas who will not travel downtown for performances or exhibits. We need an outdoor amphitheatre-like facility at the Dallas International District as well as more venues for indoor arts and cultural programming. Additionally, we should leverage the incredible Goldmark Cultural Center who is home to 120+ artists and is located in the highest poverty area of D11, the Esperanza area. Finally, I believe there is tremendous opportunity for public art at the Dallas International District, on our trails and in our parks such as the Anderson Bonner Sankofa statue.

Please return completed questionnaire to dacac@artsdallas.org as soon as possible.

Join us for a Candidate Reception for all Mayoral and City Council Candidates at The Perot on 4/17 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM