

Dallas Area Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
Candidate Survey  
City of Dallas Elections 2017

Candidate Name/Address/Phone (please include your email address and your website address):

Name: \_ADAM MEDRANO\_\_ Phone 469-733-5549

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What Elective office are you running for? \_CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 2\_\_

Please attach a resume to this survey and return your completed survey to:

Dallas Area Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
3630 Harry Hines Blvd.,  
Dallas, TX 75219

Or fax to 214/522-9174 to the Attention of DACAC **Please return by April 12, 2017**

You can download electronic copy: [www.dallasneedsthearts.com](http://www.dallasneedsthearts.com) and email it through the website

1. What Arts events or performances have you attended in the past year and what Arts organizations or commissions have you served as a Board Member, Volunteer, Contributor, or Season Ticket holder? Please list all cultural groups even if not in Dallas and how you participated.

I made a cameo appearance in the Dallas Public Works performance of Tempest. I was a advocate Council Member to bring Public Works to Dallas. I attend shows often at Dallas Music Hall and the AT&T Performance Arts Center. I support local artists in the Deep Ellum Community attend shows often throughout the neighborhood.

2. The City of Dallas currently allocates more than twenty million dollars from the general fund to support City-owned arts facilities and also to directly fund programs for more than one hundred and fifty arts organizations throughout the City. Knowing that strong arts programs can improve the quality of life and neighborhoods, boost educational outcomes and be economic drivers and job creators, how would you propose to honor the City's obligations and also increase the investment the City of Dallas makes in the arts? How do you view the role of public funding from the City of Dallas in promoting participation in the arts among your constituents?

The arts are essential to any successful society. I support strong public funding of the arts and believe it should be a priority in the City's budget. I know we can invest in and adequately fund the arts without sacrificing our roads, public safety, and other essential services.

3. Corporate relocations to the Dallas area are highly desirable to grow our economy and add jobs. How would you integrate the arts into your strategy for attracting corporate relocations?

We should include the arts community as part of our presentations and pitches to potential companies. We should also take scouting groups out to our local museums, theaters, and art installations.

4. How important is Cultural Tourism to the development of our economy and what is your strategy to increase cultural tourism for our City?

Cultural tourism is essential to the growth and prosperity of Dallas. We should support community arts groups and our local chambers to ensure that

5. How do you define Cultural Equity, is it a priority for you, and how would you help Dallas become a more culturally equitable city?

Cultural equity is the collective nexus of the arts community, policy makers, educational entities, charitable non-profits, and the public working in sync to build a community environment that makes the arts, culture, and history of its people available to everyone, regardless of background. It is achieved when everybody has a chance to flourish and appreciate.

6. How would you balance the need to support the organizations and facilities of the city's larger arts institutions (in and out of the Arts District) with support for the small, midsize, and emerging organizations and individual artists?

Yes, absolutely. We should provide greater support for small artists, independent creators, and the local businesses that support them. There must be a balance.

7. Do you believe that it's important that arts and culture are experienced throughout the entire city? How do you plan to bring arts and culture to areas of Dallas that do not have access to the arts? Name three areas of your council district where you think arts and cultural programs and experiences are most needed now.

I believe the arts are essential to our quality of life. The arts are very much tied to our economic and social successes.

We can provide support for LGBTQ+ artists, particularly in the Oak Lawn portion of my district. We can continue to support live music in the fun Deep Ellum neighborhood of District 2. We can continue to support private and public murals in the neighborhoods throughout my district.

8. Are you familiar with the City of Dallas - Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) funding programs and what changes, improvements or other innovations would you recommend for OCA Programs?

Yes, I am. I am open to recommendations presented by local art leaders and put forth by our commission.

9. What's your opinion on bringing together City, Corporate, and Foundation sources in our community to leverage more resources for arts and culture and also achieve equity for small and midsize organizations and individual artists?

This would be excellent and I would gladly offer my office as a resource to help stir this into action.

10. The City of Dallas has invested significant resources to the acquisition and development of Public Art including sculptures, murals, paintings, and other art works in our public spaces. What opinions or suggestions do you have regarding the Public Art Program?

My constituents love it. We should continue to support these initiatives.

11. The current needs inventory to address a serious level of deferred maintenance, repairs and replacements for City-owned arts facilities totals more than \$186 Million dollars and further delay in addressing these issues will only increase the costs. How would you propose to handle this problem, prioritize the needs, and what kind of plan would you propose to address this issue.

We need a fundamental change in thinking at City Hall to better match our priorities with the needs/desires of our constituents. For far too long, our priorities such as the arts, libraries, roads, and public safety have been put on the backburner to make way for other initiatives that do not serve Dallas well.

12. Crime in our City continues to be an issue that we are all concerned about. What role, if any, do you think the arts can play in crime prevention strategies?

The arts could be incorporated in extracurricular programs for our youth to deter them from potentially criminal activities.

13. If elected, you will appoint representatives to a variety of boards and commissions. What criteria will you use to select appointees and specifically, what would be your requirements for your appointee to the City of Dallas, Cultural Affairs Commission?

I will appoint either a local artist or somebody heavily involved in the Dallas arts community.

Thank you for your careful consideration of the questions in our survey. We hope you will attend the Candidate Reception at the Perot Museum on May 1, 2017. We will send an invitation soon.