

ArtsAlliance

July 24, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arts Alliance Releases Results of 2012 Primary Candidate Survey on Arts and Culture

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Washtenaw County, MI – The Arts Alliance conducted a survey of candidates running for office in Washtenaw County about their views on arts and culture. Surveys were distributed to all candidates running in contested party races during the primary elections to be held on August 7th, 2012. Candidates running uncontested in the primary did not receive surveys. Eighteen of the candidates running for city, township, county, and state seats representing communities in Washtenaw County completed the survey and submitted their responses by the deadline. Their exact responses are listed below.

The Arts Alliance is a nonpartisan, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that advocates for and supports the Creative Sector in Washtenaw County – art and cultural organizations and creative individuals and businesses – to insure that our region remains a great place to live, work, play and visit.

2012 Washtenaw County Primary Candidate Arts & Culture Survey
Administered by The Arts Alliance, a nonpartisan, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Candidate's Full Name: Andrea Brown-Harrison

City, Township, State, etc.: Ann Arbor, Pittsfield Township, Ann Arbor Township, Augusta Township, York Township, Milan

Position s/he is running for: State Representative

Jurisdiction: District 55

Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Cultural Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Vocal Music, Literary, Visual

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I am a supporter of public funding for arts and culture. I took many art classes throughout elementary and secondary school. As a result, I have a hobby that I enjoy today. I sketch as often as possible. Usually I draw on a sketch pad using pencil or charcoal, but I also have an easel that I can use. My love of art goes beyond drawing. I also love viewing beautiful art like Michelangelo's "Statue of David," Rodin's "The Thinker," or paintings by artists, like Sofonisba Anguissola, from the Renaissance age and other era's. Often, the aesthetic beauty of art takes my breath away. After taking an art history class at a university, I was introduced to and became an admirer of the ethereal beauty of natural art. Artists in this genre, like Andy Goldsworthy, create art from nature. It inspires me to see the simplicity of nature around me in a broader context. I support public funding of the arts and culture, because they help develop children's creativity. Also, they help improve children's academic achievement. For example, my participation in the arts may be one of the reasons I was an honor student throughout elementary and secondary school. As a former television news associate producer and television news writer, I know the impact of arts-related businesses and the job opportunities they provide in communities.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I would work to find sustainable funding for arts and culture in conventional, as well as other ways. One of the methods I would use is to seek grants.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Percent for public arts programs, Appropriations

Candidate's Full Name: Andy LaBarre
City, Township, State, etc.: Washtenaw County
Position s/he is running for: County Commissioner
Jurisdiction: District 7
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Science & Technology Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Literary, Visual, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

Public funding of the arts is a vital part of our society and culture, especially in a community like ours which is so connected to educational and other cultural institutions. With public funding we can ensure the benefits of the arts extend to all our citizens regardless of their income levels. Funding the arts during difficult economic times remains important because of the benefits they bring to our economy, our educational efforts and our sense of community. Basic needs must come first, but with hard work I believe policy makers can find or advocate for funding for the arts.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

When applicable I would vote to fund community art projects; support efforts for a vote on inclusion of Washtenaw County into the Detroit Institute of Arts millage jurisdiction; assist in the identification, application and support of relevant funding grants for area institutions; and generally advocate for public art in our community.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage), Appropriations

Candidate's Full Name: Christina Montague
City, Township, State, etc.: Washtenaw County
Position s/he is running for: Washtenaw County Commissioner
Jurisdiction: District 7
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Science & Technology Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Vocal Music, Photography, Literary

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

As a Ann Arbor Public School Social Worker I have first hand knowledge and experience working with hundreds of children in my public school career that had it not been for art, music, dance and physical education some students would not made it through and graduated. The Arts are so important in the total intellectual, social, and emotional development and well being for children to be successful at all levels.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I am a long time strong supporter of arts and culture all all levels. If you speak with some of the art teachers I work with in the public schools they will tell you that I always find time to visit art classes to encourage young artist. I often hang student art work in my office.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Percent for public arts programs

Candidate's Full Name: Harry G. Bentz
City, Township, State, etc.: Washtenaw County
Position s/he is running for: County Water Resources Commissioner
Jurisdiction: Washtenaw County
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Literary, Visual, Afromusiicology, Music Appreciation

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

Public funding for arts and music education is essential for the proper development of our children. It is well known that the arts serve as a conduit between otherwise isolated cultural bodies that open minds to diversity in all aspects of life. Opening the minds of students through art appreciation and participation open doors to problem solving and creative thinking, as opposed to following established paths that everybody else follows. To think that by cutting funding for arts will provide avenues to tax-cutting is like pillaging an honored estate of the copper in the plumbing for its value in scrap metal. Sure, there may be a short-term coin that you can haggle over but in the long term you are destroying a resource from the future.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

As Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner I would personally support and participate in music events as well as support local artists in their endeavors. I have already enlisted the services of a local artist, Jesse Rubinfeld of Ypsilanti to design my campaign signs that are quite distinguishable from the ordinary blue and white lawn signs you usually see. If I were to be elected I would have many more resources to be able to support our local arts and music scene.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage)

Candidate's Full Name: Evan Pratt
City, Township, State, etc.: Washtenaw County
Position s/he is running for: Water Resources Commissioner
Jurisdiction: Washtenaw County
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Historic Museums, Cultural Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

Our country was founded and is based on people having a say in deciding how their tax money is spent.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

The statutory authority outlined in Public Act 40 of 1956 is the state enabling legislation for Water Resource Commissioners and Drain Commissioners in all 82 Michigan counties. This Act is also known as the "Drain Code", and provides authority to address drainage and purity of water. As an elected official, I would have no authority to allocate public funds to arts and culture.

Personally, I have supported a wide range of arts and culture over the years, including the Detroit Institute of the Arts, the Toledo Museum of Art, the University of Michigan Museum of Art, and many other non-profit entities with a mission of enhancing arts and culture in the community.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Take the best ideas to the public for a vote.

Candidate's Full Name: Eric Sturgis
City, Township, State, etc.: Ann Arbor
Position s/he is running for: City Council
Jurisdiction: Ward 1
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Historic Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Photography, Visual, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I am in support of Ann Arbor's percent for Art funding. I would like to see it increased to 2 percent if possible. This is great for the community and for people outside of the community. I like that we use local welders, and would like to continue to see that.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I would push for a increase of a percent, in the percent for Art. I would reach out to the community and get their support and ask for their feedback to council.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage), Percent for public arts programs, Appropriations

Candidate's Full Name: Sally Hart Petersen

City, Township, State, etc.: Ann Arbor

Position s/he is running for: City Council

Jurisdiction: Ward 2

Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Historic Museums, Cultural Museums, Musical Theater

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Visual, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I am for the percent for arts funding but would like to see the City make three key changes in the program.

1. While the percent for arts guidelines call for public input, I don't see this happening. I think the public should have the chance to vote on the top 3 artists as selected by the Public Arts Commission before the final decision is made by City Council.
2. I would like to see a mechanism to include more local artists for consideration.
3. I would like the Commission to broaden the scope of what they can spend the percent for art on including expanding art programs in the public schools, musical theater, etc.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

As mentioned, if elected I would want to use the percent for arts to expand arts in the public schools. Arts engagement can be measured by number of classes offered and number of enrolled students.

Second, I was on the Ann Arbor Art Center Board (2004-2007) when we evaluated a proposal to renovate 415 West Washington into artist loft space. At this time, we approved the proposal and recommended it be brought to the City. The City decided not to accept the proposal at the time. I understand that Arts Alliance is bringing a similar concept forward. If elected, I would continue to support this concept because it is consistent with the culture of Ann Arbor as well as the adjacent Allen Creek Greenway project.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage), Percent for public arts programs

Candidate's Full Name: Margie Teall
City, Township, State, etc.: Ann Arbor
Position s/he is running for: City Council
Jurisdiction: Ward 4
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Cultural Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Photography, Literary, Visual, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

Like parks, public art acts as to activate our community, without much outside financial help. It is therefore incumbent upon us, as a City, to support it. If we truly value what I believe to be the strong economic and cultural value of public art, we need to fund it using any tools that are available to us.

I would like to see us have more flexibility in terms of what we can fund, (adding performance events such as FestiFools, which has had such a tremendous impact on our community, and which will need our help to sustain) and also flexibility for where visual art can be placed.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I will continue to support our current 1% for Art program, a tool which is used in over 200 cities and in states across the country. I have been a vocal supporter of this program, and I will continue to vote against those who would decrease or eliminate this source of funding.

We may be looking at other ways to support public art as we move forward, which could offer the flexibility in allocating arts funds as I indicated above. But in any case, public art needs the strong support of the Ann Arbor City Council to sustain the efforts that have finally started here.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage), Percent for public arts programs

Candidate's Full Name: Chuck Warpehoski

City, Township, State, etc.: Ann Arbor

Position s/he is running for: City Council

Jurisdiction: Ward 5

Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Historic Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Literary, Visual, Dance, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

When I think of the role of arts in our community life, I think of the famous textile strike in Lawrence, MA. That strike became known as the "bread and roses" strike, and it inspired a song, one verse of which is: "Our lives shall not be sweated from birth until life closes; Hearts starve as well as bodies; give us bread, but give us roses."

The arts are one source of nourishment that keeps our hearts from starving. The arts both enrich our quality of life and create a liveable, vibrant community that supports economic vitality. Therefore I believe that local government should look for ways to support our local arts community

The city's current "Percent for Art" is an attempt to do just that. Unfortunately, it has significant limitations on what it can fund, it only covers permanent installations of visual arts, and it does not adequately focus on local artists. I would support looking for ways to establish a more flexible funding stream for the arts.

Given current budget constraints, it is important that arts funding not compete with general fund expenses like police and fire. The Percent for Art program is structured so that it is funded outside of the general fund, and local government should fight misconceptions in this area to address community concerns and solidify support for arts funding.

Ann Arbor must have basic services to function, but it is largely the city's culture that makes it a delightful city. It would be foolish to cast aside the roses that make our city great.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

The recent community focus has been on the role of the Percent for Art ordinance in funding art. I would support a community review to evaluate if that is the best way to fund the arts and culture, or to see if we could establish an alternative funding mechanism that would allow more flexibility to support performing arts and other cultural programs. I would also look for other ways to support the arts through in-kind support and partnerships.

One concern I have heard from groups organizing festivals and events is that the permitting and approval processes can be arduous. If elected, I will work to nurture a "customer service" approach to

these processes to remove barriers that impede the arts programming and festivals that are part of what makes Ann Arbor a truly exceptional place to live.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage)

Candidate's Full Name: Kathryn M. Bowring
City, Township, State, etc.: Dexter Township
Position s/he is running for: Township Supervisor
Jurisdiction: Dexter Township
Party Affiliation: Republican

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I support public funding for arts & culture. It is what keeps all of this creativity vibrant.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I will look into making the township hall a place where local artists can display their works.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage), Percent for public arts programs

Candidate's Full Name: Jeffrey Feldkamp
City, Township, State, etc.: Lodi Township
Position s/he is running for: Township Supervisor
Jurisdiction: Lodi Township
Party Affiliation: Republican

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

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

Cultural arts are important for the proper development of our youth I believe that arts and culture are needed for the advancement of our communities in a hardened state of economy

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I if elected would present to the board a value for consideration to help fund these programs

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

contributions

Candidate's Full Name: Gene DeRossett
City, Township, State, etc.: Manchester Township
Position s/he is running for: Township Supervisor
Jurisdiction: Manchester Township
Party Affiliation: Republican

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

Performance Arts

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

In 2000 as State Representative secured and presented a check for \$ 100,000.00 to Performance network

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

Attend programs and performances and fund raisers when possible.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage), Appropriations

Candidate's Full Name: Leslie Kopka
City, Township, State, etc.: Manchester Township
Position s/he is running for: Township Supervisor
Jurisdiction: Manchester Township
Party Affiliation: Republican

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

Performance Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Historic Museums, Cultural Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Photography, Visual, Dance, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I don't believe the position of township supervisor has anything to do with the arts.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I don't believe the position of township supervisor has anything to do with the arts.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

None

Candidate's Full Name: Jill A. Hargrove

City, Township, State, etc.: York

Position s/he is running for: York Township Trustee

Jurisdiction: York Township

Party Affiliation: Republican

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

Performance Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Historic Museums, Cultural Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Literary

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I believe in private funding for all arts and culture

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

There are no opportunities to facilitate this activity in this position

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Candidate's Full Name: Michael Eller
City, Township, State, etc.: Ypsilanti
Position s/he is running for: City Council
Jurisdiction: Ward 3
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Cultural Museums, Live Concerts

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Literary, Visual, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

The arts are close to my heart and an important part of my family's heritage. Both of my parents were professional musicians, and my father taught piano and music composition at a number of universities.

My brother, sister, and I were raised with musical instruments in our hands; attended college on music-related scholarships; and graduated with degrees in performance. My brother is currently a professor of clarinet at University of South Carolina.

My four sons are trained on piano, and one plays violin. My wife and youngest son are trained in Russian ballet, and perform at local venues in Washtenaw County. I personally have a strong interest in jazz, orchestral music, opera, and ballet, and attend as many performances as time permits.

Needless to say, I recognize the vital role of the arts in elevating the human spirit, and support them as both an arts provider and a patron. "Arts funding" is outside the purview of the position I am seeking. My support of arts and culture comes in more indirect ways, as described below.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

While Ypsilanti City Council is unable to fund the arts, it does support a cultural scene by encouraging a wide range of arts and performance events. This includes the Shadow Art Fair (painting, drawing, sculpture, and other arts), the Heritage Festival (reenactment theater, musical performance), Elvis Fest (Elvis), and the Riverside Park Pops Concert (orchestral music), just to name a few. My job as a member of City Council will be to ensure that these events continue to be welcomed, and to be properly supported by the city and its services.

When cultural events are held, it is the responsibility of the city to provide the infrastructure that underpins their success. Specifically, the city must oversee permitting processes, prepare the venues for crowd control, and keep the performance grounds safe and clean. Currently, some of the formalities involved are cumbersome, costly, and discouraging to event sponsors and participants. As a member of Ypsilanti City Council, I plan to streamline the management of major cultural events, based on feedback from arts providers and consumers, to keep the focus on the arts themselves - not bureaucracy. Success will be measured by the improved satisfaction of event stakeholders. Arts and culture are essential to our community, and have a strong ally in me, Mike Eller.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Please see below.

Candidate's Full Name: Maria Sheler-Edwards
City, Township, State, etc.: Ypsilanti Township
Position s/he is running for: Trustee
Jurisdiction: Ypsilanti Township
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Historic Museums, Cultural Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Photography, Literary, Visual, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

Arts and culture are a valuable part of what makes a community a desirable place to live. Because I see arts and culture as part of the public good, I support public funding for programs that make art and culture accessible to everyone.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I would support any initiative to bring low-cost arts and culture programs to Ypsilanti Township, especially if there were a focus on benefitting our youth. My children have been immeasurably enriched by music and theater programs in the public schools (Ypsilanti and Lincoln), and I would like to see these programs expanded.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Tax-based funding (Millage)

Candidate's Full Name: Evan J. Hayes
City, Township, State, etc.: Ypsilanti Township
Position s/he is running for: Park Commissioner
Jurisdiction: Ypsilanti Township
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Science & Technology Museums, Historic Museums, Cultural Museums

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Literary

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I believe that the arts progress society, and they deserve our support. Everyone remembers their first art or music class, the first concert they went to, or the first painting they saw that made them feel truly moved. There's no greater feeling than allowing a great song, or picture, or piece of history to really show you how the simplest things can make the biggest impacts

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

I will strive to be proactive in ensuring that arts & culture becomes an integrated part of our community. These things aren't solely reserved for classrooms, and museums, but can enrich our everyday lives.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

Percent for public arts programs

Candidate's Full Name: Jasmine Mackey
City, Township, State, etc.: Ypsilanti Township
Position s/he is running for: Park Commissioner
Jurisdiction: Ypsilanti Township
Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Performance Arts

Thinking back to your own K-12 education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?

Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Dance, Theater

What is your position on public funding for arts & culture?

I believe that funding for the arts is a must. These programs are an outlet for children to express themselves and to build relationships with people who share a common interest.

If elected, what *measurable* actions will you take to ensure arts & culture can survive and thrive in Washtenaw County?

If elected I would hope that I could bring more community activities to Ypsilanti Township that provide a way for people to watch, listen, present and perform what they have a passion for.

If you support public funding for arts and culture, what do you think are the best means of allocating funds? (Options included: tax-based funding (millage), percent for public art programs, appropriations, none, and other.)

The following candidates did not respond to the survey by the deadline:

State Representative District 53:

Jeff Irwin (D)

Thomas Partridge (D)

State Representative District 55:

Adam Zemke (D)

Ann Arbor City Council:

Sumi Kailasapathy – Ward 1 (D)

Tony Derezinski—Ward 2 (D)

John Eaton—Ward 4 (D)

Vivienne N. Arementrout—Ward 5 (D)

Ann Arbor Township Trustee:

John E. Allison (D)

Kenneth Kohrs (R)

Randolph S. Perry (R)

Claudia Sedmak (D)

Augusta Township Supervisor:

Pete Hafler (D)

Kathleen M. Jackson (R)

William Tobler (D)

Richard Tsvetanoff (D)

Brian Shelby (R)

Augusta Township Clerk:

Linda Adams (R)

Iva Bielec (D)

Kathy Giszczak (D)

Kathleen McDonald (R)

Augusta Township Treasurer:

Susan Burek (D)

Lynda H. Dew (D)

Augusta Township Trustee

Dwight Parris Bennet (R)

Dennis Chie (R)

Cath Howard (D)

H. Neil Johnson (D)

Laverne Kailimai (D)

Joseph Keefe (D)

Michael J. King (R)

Daniel K. Lula (R)

Douglas Newsome (R)
Judy Thornton (D)
Ira Todd (D)

Bridgewater Township Trustee:
Wes Cowden (R)
David C. Faust (R)
R. Geoffrey Oliver (R)

Dexter Township Supervisor:
James L. Drolett (R)

Dexter Township Treasurer:
Libby Brushaber (R)
Mark A. Wojno (R)

Freedom Township Treasurer:
Rudy T. Layher (R)
Kenny E. Siler (R)

Lima Township Supervisor:
Craig A. Maier (R)
Robert Spink (R)
Kenneth B. Unterbrink (R)

Lima Township Trustee:
Donald Laier (R)
Gregory A. McKenzie (R)
Lawrence Risner (R)

Lodi Township Supervisor:
Janann Godek (R)
Karen Edman (R)

Manchester Township Supervisor:
James Schiel (R)

Northfield Township Supervisor:
Marilyn Handloser Engstrom (R)
Debra Mozurkewich (R)

Northfield Township Clerk:
Deborah J. Anderson (R)
Michele K. Manning (R)

Northfield Township Trustee:
Janet M. Chick (R)
Douglas R. Del Favero (D)

Wayne F. Dockett (R)
Samuel J. Iaquinto (R)
David E. Gibbons Jr. (D)
Michael J. Magda (D)
Lisa C. McCully (R)
Jacqueline R. Otto (R)
Alan D. Smith (R)
Mark Stanalajczo (R)
Tracy S. Thomas (D)
Athena Trentin (D)
Jeffery Vega (R)

Pittsfield Township Parks Commissioner:

Cleveland Chandler (D)
Joan Coxton (D)
Deborah Hoffman (D)
Patricia Stanton-Kawalec (D)
Theresa S. Tupacz (D)
John R. Vidolich (D)
Kerne A. Zera (D)

Salem Township Supervisor:

Susan Bejin (R)
Robert E. Heyl (R)
Gary Wittaker (R)

Salem Township Clerk:

Carol Liogghio (R)
Del Wensley (R)

Salem Township Treasurer:

Dale Converse (R)
Paul J. Uherek (R)

Salem Township Trustee:

Patrick Curley (R)
Doug Shepherd (R)

Wayne W. Wallazy (R)
John Daniel (R)
Dennis Draplin (R)
T.J. McLaughlin (R)
Sandra L. Petoskey (R)
Maribeth Schmidt (R)
David Trent (R)

Saline Township Trustee:

Robert Julius Marion (R)

Robert L. Prehn (R)

Sharon Township Supervisor:

Roger H. Kappler (R)

Peter Psarouthakis (R)

Corey Schmitt (R)

Sharon Township Clerk:

Teri L. Aiuto (R)

Chelsea Mikel (R)

Sharon Township Treasurer:

Kathryn A. Parrish (R)

Brian Simons (R)

Sylvan Township Clerk:

LuAnn S. Koch (R)

Douglas M. Smith (R)

Sylvan Township Treasurer:

Rodney J. Branham (R)

Arlene J. Grau (R)

Sylvan Township Trustee:

Kurk P. Koseck (R)

Reuben A. Lesser, Jr. (R)

Roy Schmidt (R)

Webster Township Trustee:

Charles L. Estleman (R)

Richard Kleinschmidt (R)

Gary J. Koch (R)

Robert J. Mitzel (R)

John H. Westman (R)

York Township Supervisor:

John W. Stanowski (R)

Chuck Tellas (R)

Joe Zurawski (R)

York Township Trustee:

Brian F. Iott (R)

Jaine A. Kartje (R)

Dan C. Pichla (R)

Thomas L. Preston (R)

Ypsilanti City Council:

Lois E. Allen Richardson—Ward 1 (D)

Tyrone Bridges—Ward 1 (D)
Steve Pierce—Ward 1 (D)
Peter J. Murdock—Ward 3 (D)
Ted Windish—Ward 3 (D)

Ypsilanti Township Supervisor:
John H. Hoops (D)
Brenda Meadows (D)
Brenda L. Stumbo (D)

Ypsilanti Township Clerk:
Ruth Ann Jamnick (D)
Karen Lovejoy Roe (D)

Ypsilanti Township Treasurer:
Larry D. Davis (D)
Larry Doe (D)

Ypsilanti Township Trustee:
Jean Hall Currie (D)
Stan Eldridge (D)
Carlton A. Fields (D)
Scott Martin (D)
Mike Martin (D)
Sylvia D. Spurlock (D)
S.A. Trudy Swanson Winston (D)

Ypsilanti Township Park Commissioner:
Gail Boyd-Palmer (D)
Keith P. Jason (D)
Jimmie Magard (D)
William M. Odom (D)
Richard Roe (D)
Monica Ross-Williams (D)
Lonnie Scott (D)
Debbie Swanson (D)
Carissa Collins Watson (D)