

# Mary Throne - Governor (D)

## WyAA Arts and Culture Survey Responses

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

\* Dance, Theatre, Music, Film/Media, Visual Arts.

***Considering your own personal background and education, what arts or cultural classes, programs or activities did you participate in?***

\* Instrumental Music, Theatre, Vocal Music

***What role do you believe Wyoming and/or local government should play in supporting arts and culture to enhance economic and community development?***

\* I believe that state government should support the arts, especially when those art forms are under-served, as so many are. Arts' facilities are part of the "infrastructure" of communities and local governments should be supported in their efforts. Investment in the arts can be an economic driver and a net gain, stimulating business activity and tourism while creating more livable communities.

***What role do you believe Wyoming and/or local government should play in supporting arts and culture to provide a comprehensive education for Wyoming K-12 students?***

\* It is essential that arts education remains part of the "basket of goods" for Wyoming K-12 students. I supported including Fine Arts in the Hathaway. Arts education has the potential to facilitate deeper engagement in a classroom environment. All three of my children participated in music at their schools. When communities take it upon themselves to bring arts and culture into schools, it demonstrates a commitment to culture and the inherent value of that culture. One example is the "Two Nations, One Reservation" exhibit that the legislature helped to bring into Wyoming schools to teach children about the history of the Shoshoni and Northern Arapaho tribes.

***What role do you believe Wyoming and/or local government should play in supporting arts and culture to enhance quality of life?***

\* Support for the arts and culture make up a relatively small portion of the budget, but have a significant effect on quality of life communities statewide. Art and culture help to make communities desirable, and foster a stronger sense of place. Investment from the state government leverages investment from the private sector, enriching local culture and often leading to a return on investment. I believe that the choices we make with regards to funding for the arts reflects the overall health of the state budget.

***The recently-released ENDOW Report proposes increasing the Wyoming Cultural Trust corpus to \$100 million. Rank your degree of support for this proposal.***

\* Very Supportive

***The ENDOW Report also proposes a Creative Ready Community Grant and Loan Program that would expand state financial support for innovative arts-oriented community projects. Rank your degree of support for this proposal.***

\* Very Supportive

***The ENDOW Report also suggests making it easier for Wyoming communities to impose a local tax to build creative and cultural sector "capacity." Rank your degree of support for this proposal.***

\* Supportive

***For the 2018-19 grant cycle, the Wyoming Arts Council distributed more than \$800,000 in grant funds to local communities. (The total amount requested in 2018 was \$1.45 million.) How do you feel about this level of financial support to Wyoming communities and local arts organizations?***

\* Not Enough