

Shelly Duncan - HD05 (R)

WyAA 2020 Arts and Culture Survey Response

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

* Dance, Theatre, Music, Visual Arts

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

* Instrumental Music, Dance, Film/Photography, Drawing/Painting/Sculpting, Digital Arts/Design

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

* Art is very important to our communities and can play a vital role in economic development. Art gives stability and growth to its community members either through active participation or through enjoyment by patrons. Art also brings cultural diversity into rural communities that otherwise may not get exposure. The arts also brings people outside local communities to participate and therefore has an economic impact via shopping, educational opportunities or attract homeownership. Government isn't the only viable source of funds, but simply a part of the equation. Through public private partnerships art can creative a thriving partnership that benefits the entire community and state as a whole.

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?

* Art in our K-12 education is extremely vital. It has been proven that those students exposed to cultural and art throughout their formative years have a better understanding of themselves, community and the world in which they live. It has given students that struggle emotionally an

outlet to freely and safely express themselves thereby curbing the violent or destructive behaviors. Those who are struggling have a way to communicate rather than hiding within themselves has helped many students of all ages. The studies have also correlated to the enhanced math abilities with music. Art plays a more vital roll in today's society than many realize. Government benefits in the long run by ensuring cultural & art exposure for our K-12 students by better well adjusted graduates that are less likely to become wards of the state later through incarceration but rather more productive contributors to our communities and state.

What role do you believe Wyoming and/or local government should play in supporting arts and culture, diversifying the local economy, and enhancing quality of life?

* Art/Culture has always struggled to survive throughout history due to lack of funding. The public private partnership is vital. No one wants government control for our art & cultural events or education. That control would stifle the importance that art and culture has played throughout our history. There must be a balance between the two. Art/Culture brings color and vitality to a community as well as attracts business or people (homeowners & students) to our communities. Each brings such an important role to diversify our experiences.

Rate your level of support for a local-option sales or property tax to support cultural activities and development.

* Supportive

Rate your level of support for expanding the lodging tax to support cultural activities and development.

* Very Supportive

According to Americans for the Arts, statewide cultural district programs have been established in 14 states and more states are considering implementation of such policies. Rate your level of support for local cultural districts, funded by an expanded lodging, property or sales tax.

* Very Supportive