



Create the Vote 2024

Candidate Survey

2024-06-23

Eric Johnston (SD 06)

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

Are there any specific arts and culture activities from your experience that you would like to highlight as noteworthy or exceptional?

HS Band at sporting events Cheyenne Civic Center productions

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

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?

Maslow's Triangle - basic needs must be met before addressing the higher levels. When local gov has met their basic budget needs, then yes, support for the arts and culture becomes a consideration.

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?

Not all children are destined to be doctors, lawyers or accountants. By providing arts and culture in the Wyo K12 education, more students can find and learn about curriculum in which they have interest and talent. This sets them up for success in life after HS. I support arts and culture curriculum in K12 education.

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?

Similar to #5. Certainly, a physical structure like the Cheyenne Civic Center is beneficial to these 3 bullet points. The reason we can enjoy and benefit from it, however, is our basic needs are fulfilled. Most likely, local gov could not spend \$MM for a civic center and look for funds (#8 below) through alternative sources. Allocating \$ to arts and culture is acceptable AFTER basic needs are covered. Human society definitely benefits from arts and culture and this sets us apart from the Stone Age era. If the underlying foundation blocks crumble, however, man will no longer have the motivation to look upward. Thus, we need to maintain the basic needs first - allowing us to then look upward. On #8 below, it is up to the voters of the district.

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

Neither Unsupportive nor Supportive

Create the Vote 2024 Candidate Surveys are a voter education service provided by WyAA, a member-supported nonprofit dedicated to improving the climate for the arts and culture in Wyoming. Become a member online at Wyomingarts.org/join.