

#### **Candidate Survey**

2024-06-24 Thomas Lear (HD 12)

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

Theatre, Music, Film/Media, Visual Arts

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

Our family is a fan of the West Edge festival and are sad to see it go. We also have enjoyed the Cheyenne Hispanic Festival, Babies and Books at the Laramie County Library, and Super Day.

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

Theatre, Film/Photography, Literary Arts

# 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?

I believe arts, culture, and the humanities can play a key role in the economic success of Wyoming. As we look to attract and keep the best and brightest to live and work in Wyoming, the arts, culture, and humanities will be an important factor in their decisions to make Wyoming home. Creating an environment for the arts, culture, and the humanities to thrive should be an imperative for the state legislature, as it can be a low-cost investment in the prosperity of Wyoming.

# 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-I2 students?

Simply put, I believe the state legislature should work with local school districts to ensure that all students are offered the opportunity to participate in the arts.

# 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?

I believe the state legislature and local governments should work with area experts to find means to support arts and culture that encourage a diversification of our economy through the attraction of talented people that choose to make Wyoming home while investing in its future. This, again, is a low-cost means of ensuring a high quality of life and Wyoming's future prosperity.

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

Very 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.