



Create the Vote 2024

Candidate Survey

2024-06-21

Jon R. Conrad (HD 19)

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

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

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

1. Funding and Grants: Providing financial support through grants and subsidies for artists, cultural organizations, and humanities projects can stimulate creativity, preserve cultural heritage, and attract tourists.
2. Promotion and Marketing: Actively promoting local arts and cultural events through tourism campaigns and cultural calendars can draw visitors and stimulate spending in local communities.
3. Education and Outreach: Supporting educational programs in schools and communities that focus on arts, culture, and humanities can foster appreciation among residents and future generations, nurturing local talent and preserving traditions.
4. Infrastructure Development: Investing in cultural infrastructure such as museums, theaters, and galleries not only provides venues for artistic expression but also enhances the overall attractiveness of a community for residents and visitors alike.
5. Cultural Planning: Developing comprehensive cultural plans that integrate arts, culture, and humanities into broader community development strategies can ensure that these elements are considered in urban planning, economic development, and tourism initiatives.
6. Partnerships and Collaboration: Encouraging partnerships between local governments, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions can leverage resources and expertise to support a vibrant cultural ecosystem.
7. Creative Economy Support: Recognizing the economic contributions of artists, artisans, and cultural workers, and implementing policies that support their livelihoods can strengthen the local economy and encourage entrepreneurship.
8. Preservation of Heritage: Investing in the preservation of historical sites, traditions, and oral histories can enrich the community's identity and provide opportunities for cultural tourism.
9. Accessibility and Inclusivity: Ensuring that arts, culture, and humanities are accessible to all residents regardless of socioeconomic background or geographic location promotes social inclusion and community cohesion.
10. Research and Advocacy: Supporting research on the impact of arts, culture, and humanities on economic and community development can provide evidence for policy-making and advocacy efforts.

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?

1. Curriculum Integration: Ensure that arts and cultural education are integrated into the core curriculum of K-12 schools. This includes incorporating arts and humanities into subjects like history, literature, and social studies to provide a well-rounded education.
2. Funding for Arts Programs: Allocate funding specifically for arts education programs within schools. This can support hiring qualified arts educators, providing resources and materials, and organizing cultural field trips and performances.
3. Partnerships with Cultural Organizations: Forge partnerships with local museums, theaters, galleries, and cultural institutions to provide students with hands-on learning experiences, workshops, and access to cultural artifacts and performances.
4. Professional Development for Educators: Offer professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers to enhance their knowledge and skills in integrating arts and culture into their teaching practices.
5. Community Engagement: Encourage collaboration between schools and the local community, including artists, cultural practitioners, and historians, to enrich students' exposure to diverse cultural perspectives and practices.
6. Advocacy and Awareness: Advocate for the importance of arts and culture in education at the state and local levels. Raise awareness among policymakers, educators, parents, and the community about the benefits of arts education for students' academic, social, and emotional development.
7. Equity and Access: Ensure that arts and cultural education opportunities are accessible to all students, regardless of their background or geographic location. This may involve providing transportation to cultural venues, offering scholarships for arts programs, or integrating technology to facilitate virtual cultural experiences.
8. Evaluation and Assessment: Implement systems to assess the effectiveness of arts and cultural education programs in meeting educational goals and standards. Use data-driven insights to continuously improve and expand these offerings.
9. Support for Creative Expression: Foster environments within schools where students feel encouraged and supported to express themselves creatively through various art forms, including visual arts, music, theater, dance, and literature.
10. Long-Term Commitment: Recognize that arts and culture are integral components of a well-rounded education and commit to sustained investment and support for these programs over the long term.

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?

1. Investment in Cultural Infrastructure: Governments can allocate funds to develop and maintain cultural infrastructure such as museums, theaters, galleries, and performance spaces. These venues not only enrich the cultural life of residents but also attract tourists and support local artists and artisans.
2. Support for Arts Education: By integrating arts education into K-12 curricula and supporting extracurricular arts programs, governments can nurture creativity and cultural appreciation among youth. This investment helps build a skilled workforce with diverse talents, which is crucial for a diversified economy.
3. Funding for Cultural Events and Festivals: Providing financial support and logistical assistance for cultural events, festivals, and public art installations can draw visitors, stimulate local spending, and foster community pride. These events also contribute to a vibrant local economy by boosting tourism and supporting local businesses.
4. Promotion of Cultural Tourism: Governments can collaborate with tourism agencies and cultural organizations to promote cultural tourism initiatives. Highlighting unique cultural heritage, arts

districts, and historical landmarks can attract visitors and extend their stays, benefiting local hospitality, retail, and service industries.

5. **Incentives for Creative Industries:** Offering incentives such as tax breaks, grants, and business development support to creative entrepreneurs, artists, and cultural organizations encourages the growth of creative industries. These sectors contribute to economic diversification by generating jobs and revenue streams beyond traditional sectors.

6. **Preservation of Cultural Heritage:** Governments can support initiatives to preserve and celebrate local cultural heritage, including Indigenous traditions, pioneer history, and immigrant contributions. These efforts enhance community identity, attract heritage tourists, and contribute to a sense of pride and belonging among residents.

7. **Community Engagement and Inclusivity:** Encouraging community participation in cultural activities and ensuring inclusivity across diverse demographics promotes social cohesion and enhances quality of life. Programs that engage youth, seniors, and marginalized groups in cultural pursuits foster a more inclusive and resilient community fabric.

8. **Arts and Health Initiatives:** Recognizing the therapeutic benefits of arts and culture, governments can support programs that integrate arts into healthcare settings, senior centers, and community wellness initiatives. These programs contribute to improved mental health, well-being, and overall quality of life for residents.

9. **Integration into Urban Planning:** Incorporating cultural planning into urban development strategies ensures that arts and cultural considerations are integrated into public spaces, urban design, and neighborhood revitalization efforts. This holistic approach enhances the aesthetic appeal and livability of communities.

10. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Facilitating partnerships between government, private sector, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions maximizes resources and expertise for supporting arts, culture, and economic diversification initiatives. Collaborative efforts can leverage collective strengths to achieve shared goals and sustainable outcome.

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

Supportive