

Oregon artPAC — 2016 Primaries

Contest: **Multnomah County District One**

Candidate Name: Brian Wilson

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Candidate Web Site: www.wilsonforportland.com

Date of Questionnaire Submittal: 2/10/16

In a 140-character “tweet” format, tell us why you are running for office.

I’m passionate about the mission of county, the human side of the local government equation; I’ll do my part to advance and enhance the mission.

How many donors have contributed to your campaign?

60+

How much money have you raised for your campaign?

15,000

What endorsements have you received?

Nick Fish, Sam Adams, Karin Powers, Lynn Petersen, Chris Coleman

What role do the arts and culture play in the life of our region and what do the arts personally mean to you and your family?

Arts & Culture are an essential backbone of our creative economy and is a vital component of our region's livability. My passion for the arts began with my first stage appearance at age 5 as a sugar plum fairy in the Nutcracker, and I've dedicated much of my life to promotion and support of the arts.

How will you address the growing affordability crisis in our region for artists, arts organizations, and small arts businesses as it relates to housing and creative space?

We have to approach this Hydra from many angles: add capacity at all levels of affordability, repurpose underutilized land close-in to accommodate more permitted uses, and work with gov't agencies and private developers to insure we make allowances for creative uses recognizing our city is experiencing unprecedented growth.

How will you foster the growth of the creative economy in our region?

The county emphasizes arts and culture as part of helping the whole person, not simply treating one symptom with one cure. We can and should do more: expand programs through SUN Schools, libraries and health clinics, but also in jails and rehabilitation facilities. Beyond this, we need to see the county increase its support of RACC through general funds, and generally support the cities in the region who are most directly involved in economic development.

How will you enhance the delivery of and support for arts education in school and neighborhood settings?

See above, but specifically through deeper support of SUN Schools, direct support of organizations like Neighborhood House and Bridge Meadows to name just two.

How will you further the values of equity and access to the arts and culture? What do you see as the biggest challenges to progress in this area?

This is one of the most important questions on this survey. Thank you. The county serves as a safety net for those in our community most in need, and unfortunately this means mostly people from communities of color and immigrant populations unused to functioning in our society. The biggest challenge to addressing this is the budget and operating under revenue constraints. I bring a unique understanding to the county that arts and culture aren't "nice to have" but "essential" to the mission of treating the whole community/person.

What other public policies would you pursue to strengthen the creative capacity of our region?

MultCo is the largest general fund government agency in the region. It should have an outsized voice in promoting the region, supporting programs and services that enhance livability in the region and developing strong partnerships with all 24 municipalities in the county. I will work hard to foster these relationships.

The following question is for candidates in City of Portland contests only. Do you support the voter-approved Arts Education and Access Fund and do you commit to maintaining it? What changes, if any, would you make to improve its administration?

I support the Arts Education and Access Fund and yes, I support maintaining it.

The following question is for candidates in City of Portland, Clackamas County, Multnomah County, or Washington County contests only. Each year, you will have the opportunity to vote to approve a budget for arts funding through the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC). Do you commit to maintaining or increasing this budget allocation and funding level?

I commit to maintaining it at a minimum, but will explore all possible pathways the county has to increase it.