



2008 General Election Questionnaire

Please fill in your information and answer the four questions below. Return via email at oregonartpac@yahoo.com. Those of you who answered these questions in the primary election have an opportunity to reconsider your responses.

Responses are due no later than September 18, 2008.

Follow up interviews will take place in the late afternoon of September 22, 2008 at the Pulliam Deffenbaugh Gallery, 929 NW Flanders Street. We will contact you regarding a specific time.

Candidate: Diane McKeel
Contest: Multnomah County Commission
District 4

Date of Submittal: September 11, 2008

1. What role do arts and culture play in the life and economy of a region and what do the arts mean to you?

The most fulfilling and economically stable regions in the world have a deep respect for and support of the arts. The arts tell us about ourselves as no other media can do. The arts tell us where a community is from and where it is going. I look at the arts as the oxygen of a community.

2. What steps will you take to help significantly increase *private sector* funding for local arts and cultural organizations so that the community's arts organizations can present more high quality arts programs for all citizens?

I believe my relationships with many of the leaders of our region can help continue and increase the private sector's support for the arts. My longtime work in this region and the solid relationships that I have formed is unmatched in this race.

Increasingly people and businesses are asked to support many a good cause, but they want to know "who's asking?" With a lifetime of building relationships

and respect in this region, I believe that the most valuable asset I bring to this job is that I am proud to say, "I am asking and I am asking for my community." I believe that in the position I seek, it is a requirement to increase the building of relationships to geometrically increase support for the arts.

3. How much of an increase in ongoing arts and culture funding will you support for your jurisdiction? Please provide a specific amount.

I believe that funding should increase as much if not slightly more than the average increase in any budget amount each year. I would be honest, I could not give a dollar amount. But I know arts funding has suffered and needs to increase relative to other expenditures. I am embarrassed with our standing relative to other regions in support for the arts in a community like ours.

4. In addition to seeking more funding for arts and cultural endeavors, what other public policies would you pursue to strengthen the creative capacity of the region? Please include your thoughts about integrating arts and culture into the region's educational system.

I believe that all jurisdictions and certain private development projects should adopt a "1% for art" ordinance.

The state legislature wrestles with funding for arts in schools every year. I would hope that this body would continue to pressure our legislature to mandate and fund arts in schools. But given the economy, it may be nearly impossible this year. I would support a statewide ballot initiative to require a basic level of arts in all schools.