



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: _____Judy Shiprack_____

Contest: _____Multnomah County Commissioner, District #3_____

Date of Submittal: _____9/15/08_____

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

Public art creates a way for the community to identify itself and a focus for communicating our values within our community and to the world. Art attracts economic development by making our community more livable and by inviting visitors to participate with us. I am particularly attracted to music and to writing, and living in a community rich in musical opportunity—the Symphony, music performance and classes for adults and children (Ethos Music, Music Together, Folk Music, Chamber Music...) and with so many local writers is exciting and energizing to me.

One of my daughters is an actress who also teaches improvisation techniques and writes. My older daughter is a lifetime music student, currently studying cello. Her seven year old (my granddaughter) is learning violin, and has taken lessons for three years. My five year old granddaughter is learning cello, and has taken lessons for two years. I have taken another granddaughter to Music Together classes since she was 8 months old—she is now a two year veteran of music class.

The 1st Thursday and last Thursday celebrations are inclusive, playful, energetic demonstrations of the community's hunger for, and love of, the arts.

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?

The private sector is the community of business that enjoys the fruits of a thriving community, their employees want to raise their children in a community that provides art education and opportunity. The best resource people, the advocates I would seek to help to lobby for private sector funding are right there, in the private sector! I support the value of developing arts and culture organizations as a public policy goal; working with the private sector to make more funding available for those organizations; and using my public position to enhance the partnerships between private sector funders and community arts organizations.

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

The economy is in chaos as I write this, and classically the first thing to go in a struggling economy is funding for the arts. I don't agree with this as an intentional policy, but it is the historic norm. Given all the programs that will be competing in an environment of budget stress and difficulty, I can't provide a specific amount; I won't promise to support an increase. I will keep my eye out for opportunities—financial ones and otherwise-- to support the arts both because they are uplifting in times of trouble for our community and because they are beneficial to our economy.

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.

My children got skinny and strong competing in Jump Rope for Art, they were able to visit the Oregon Symphony, and they both turned into avid readers. I already described their involvement in music and theater, and I know their experience in Portland Public Schools was conducive to their love of the arts. I do believe that the private sector is already supportive of arts in the schools, and I will do everything I can to encourage that support not only continue but increase.