



**2010 Questionnaire
Multnomah County Supplemental Primary**

Please fill in your information and answer the five questions below. Return via email at oregonartpac@yahoo.com

Responses are due no later than March 21, 2010

Candidate: Jeff Cogen
Contest: Multnomah County Chair
Date of Submittal: March 18, 2010

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

Ensure that the public sector does its job by funding art adequately and assist Arts organizations with fundraising.

2. As you know, there is a movement afoot to create a new dedicated annual stream of public funding for the arts that will likely be established through a voter-approved tax measure. Can you commit to supporting this effort and if so, in what way?

I am on the regional steering committee for CAN. I hope to help craft the proposal and then help lead the campaign for voter support.

3. Each year, you may have the opportunity to vote to approve an arts funding budget for the region. Will you commit to maintaining or increasing this funding level?

As the County's liaison to RACC, I have fought to maintain and broaden County support for the arts even amidst relentless budget cuts.

4. To increase regional funding for the arts through a ballot measure, there are several approaches that can be undertaken - a partnership with the Metro Council, a ballot measure proposed in all three counties in their entirety or the establishment of a new Metropolitan Arts District with the authority to tax the region, voted on county by county. Which of these approaches do you support and why?

I prefer Metro, because I think it's a netter path to the ballot. That said, I will support any decision reached.

5. In addition to seeking more funding for arts and cultural endeavors, what other public policies would you pursue to strengthen the creative capacity of Portland and the region? Please include your thoughts about how you and your board, council or commission could enhance the delivery of and support for arts education in the region's schools.

I'd like to build on the County's investments in the Right-Brain Initiative and SUN Schools—and I'm willing to make tough decisions. Last year I led the effort to raise the County's Car Rental Tax to provide \$6 Million annually to fund these and other critical services and keep the County's General Fund investment in RACC from major cuts.