



2010 General Election Questionnaire

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

Responses are due no later than September 16, 2010

Candidate: Karol Collymore

Contest: Multnomah County Commission, District 2

Date of Submittal: August 27, 2010

1. What steps will you take to help significantly increase *private sector* funding for local arts organizations so that the community's arts organizations can present more high quality arts programs for all citizens? **I will clearly represent publically the importance for the funding of the arts locally. At all levels, the impact of art can be seen in public buildings, on the roads, in schools and on TV and radio. It's important for the private sector to internalize and appreciate that the support they give makes it easier for the community to enjoy and participate in the arts. I've also recently joined the board of the Portland Playhouse – based in Northeast Portland – to increase accessibility to the arts for people at a very local level. I think upstart organizations like the Playhouse can increase interest in more diverse arts organizations. I'd be happy to help artPAC in any way that I can.**
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 do know there is a movement for a tax measure for the arts, though it may be delayed due to Oregon Historical Society's funding appearing on the ballot. I would publically endorse an effort to increase the public funding for the arts. Again, it's vital to our community's interest to protect the arts in Oregon and I'd like to be supportive.**

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? **Yes, I will commit to protect arts funding in the county budget.**

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 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 think that the best thing the County Commission can do within our capacity is to protect our current levels of funding towards the arts and increase it when we can afford it. This money that we give enables so many artists around the city to receive grants to continue their work. I've liked reading the thank you notes and announcements of projects knowing that the County in some way contributed to their work. The next thing we can promote is art programs and activities in our Sun Schools locations. We have a great opportunity to share this with children throughout our schools the way Portland Playhouse does with their Shakespeare Festival based in local schools.