

MINNESOTA Citizens for the Arts Candidate Survey 2020

The election on November 3, 2020 will have a huge impact on the arts and on our country. If you agree with the thousands of Minnesotans who believe that the arts matter, you'll want to know where legislators stand.



IMPORTANT: Visit the Secretary of State's website to find out your district and where to vote:
<http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>



READ: We've asked all legislative candidates five questions about current arts issues so they can tell you how they would vote.



ALL STARS: Look for the symbol telling you which legislators have been presented with an Arts All Star Award from MCA for their exceptional support for the arts at the legislature!



CONNECT: With MCA on Facebook, Twitter @MNCitizen, and our website www.artsmn.org. We'll make sure you stay informed.



ASK: If your candidates didn't respond to the survey, make sure to send them an email asking them to please fill out the survey!



Partners: Our national partner Americans for the Arts (AFTA) will be surveying congressional candidates and grading the 2019/2020 Congress, to get those updates, please visit: www.artsactionfund.org



Minnesota Citizens for the Arts is a non-partisan statewide arts advocacy organization whose mission is to ensure the opportunity for all people to have access to and involvement in the arts. MCA organizes the arts community and lobbies the Minnesota State Legislature and U.S. Congress on issues pertaining to the nonprofit arts. MCA does not endorse candidates for public office.

MCA's successes include passing the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment in 2008 which created dedicated funding for the arts in the Minnesota State Constitution for the next 25 years, and the Creative Minnesota research project at CreativeMN.org.



OFFICE: MINNESOTA STATE LEGISLATURE

Minnesota Candidate Survey

Of 416 surveys sent by MCA, 146 candidates responded (35%)

Q1: Is there a specific arts organization/s in your part of the state that you or your family particularly enjoy?

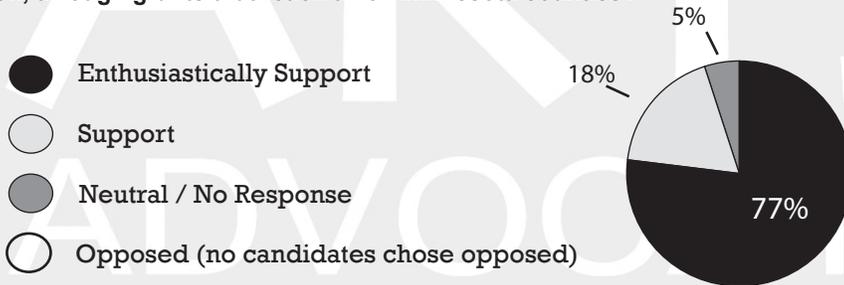
94% Listed at least one organization

69% Checked the box for "and many more"

6% Did not list any organization

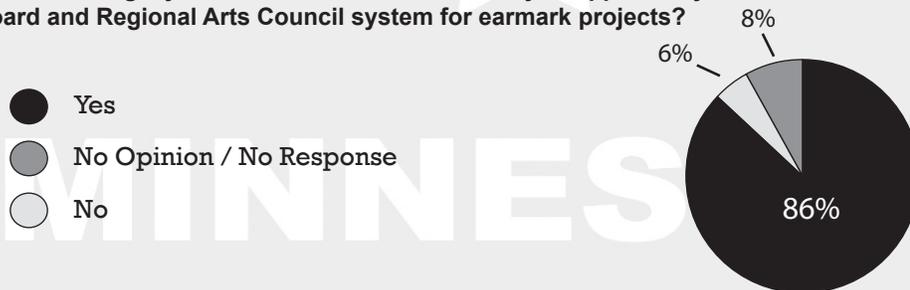
Q2: The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Constitutional Amendment, passed by 56% of the voters in November 2008, created the Arts and Culture Fund. As a result, the state constitution is clear that these funds "may be spent only for arts, arts education, and arts access and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage." It is expected that the Arts Fund will be reduced significantly because it is based on sales tax collections which have dropped because of COVID-19. MCA led the arts community campaign to pass the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment so that all Minnesotans would get access to the arts via the grants and services of the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council system, which ensures that people in all 87 counties get access to the arts. The legislature has established a standard that 47% of the Arts & Culture Fund should be appropriated to the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Councils, with the rest going to other cultural groups and services.

Question: Will you protect the standard that 47% of the Arts & Culture Legacy Fund is appropriated to the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council system, to ensure that all Minnesotans have access to the arts, regardless of their geographic location, through grants that reach all 87 Minnesota counties?



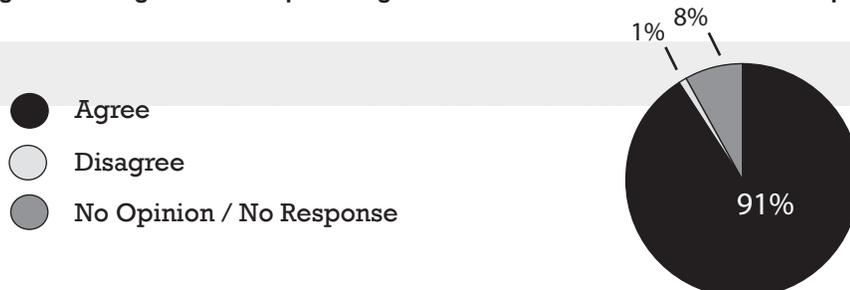
Q3: Since the first year of Legacy funding, the legislature has established a standard of using existing agencies with accountable grant-making systems and expertise, such as the Minnesota State Arts Board/ Regional Arts Council system to ensure accountability, transparency and merit-based grant-making decisions statewide. However, some in the past have attempted to use Legacy dollars for earmarks. Other legislators have suggested that doing so creates a pork barrel system of earmarks in contradiction to the legislature's important established standards.

Question: In regard to the Legacy Arts and Culture Fund, would you oppose any effort to use divert money from the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council system for earmark projects?



Q4: Nonprofit, tax exempt organizations provide social services, health services, education and arts to the public. Under Minnesota law, nonprofit organizations have been exempt from paying sales or property taxes because their services benefit the public.

Question: Do you agree or disagree that nonprofit organizations should continue to be exempt from paying taxes?



Q5: Comments: We welcome any additional comments you would like to make with regards to the arts in Minnesota.

District	Name	Party	Q1: Is there a specific arts organization/s in your part of the state that you or your family particularly enjoy?	Q2: Will you protect the standard that 47% of the Arts & Culture Legacy Fund is appropriated to the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council system, to ensure that all Minnesotans have access to the arts, regardless of their geographic location, through grants that reach all 87 Minnesota counties?	Q3: In regard to the Legacy Arts and Culture Fund, would you oppose any effort to use divert money from the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Council system for earmark projects?	Q4: Do you agree or disagree that nonprofit organizations should continue to be exempt from paying taxes?	5. Comments: We welcome any additional comments you would like to make with regards to the arts in Minnesota.
1	Reed Perkins	DFL	In Progress / Studio 110	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	My ability to speak in front of people with confidence is thanks to my time doing dance and theater as a kid. If it weren't for community arts in Minnesota, I wouldn't be half the politician I am. Regardless of if you decide to endorse me, thank you for the work you're doing.
	Mark Johnson ●	R					
1A	John Burkel	R					
	Connie Lindstrom	DFL	Northwest Minnesota Arts Council ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	As a lifelong, enthusiastic supporter of arts organizations, I know the inherent value arts programming adds to our lives and our communities. As a legislator focused on ensuring a strong regional economy for Northwest Minnesota, I will work hard to ensure people are also aware of the positive economic impact the arts have in Minnesota: arts events and programs draw millions of dollars and thousands of jobs into Minnesota communities all over the state. Continued support of the arts equals continued support of our increasingly important local tourism and hospitality industries as well. I am proud of Northwest Minnesota's vibrant art and culture scene and will work hard to protect it.
1B	Cindy Ansbacher	DFL	Trey Everret Healing Through Art WorkShop ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	This program is wonderful and must be supported.
	Debra "Deb" Kiel ●	R	***	Support	No	No Opinion	The Regional arts council has provided many opportunities in our rural area. Whether providing educational or community availability to enjoy and learn.
2	Paul Utke ●	R					
	Leonard Alan Roy	DFL					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

2A	Matthew J. Grossell •	R					
	Jeremiah Liend	DFL					
2B	Steve Green •	R					
	David Suby	DFL					
3	Thomas (Tom) Bakk •★	DFL					
	Christopher Hogan	R					
3A	Rob Ecklund •	DFL					
	Thomas Manninen	R					
3B	Andrew J Hjelle	R					
	Mary Murphy •★	DFL					
4	Mark Larson	R					
	Kent Eken •	DFL					
4A	Edwin Hahn	R					
	Heather Keeler	DFL					
4B	Brian Anderson	DFL					
	Paul Marquart •	DFL					
5	Rita Albrecht	DFL	Watermark Arts Center ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thank you for your strong support of the arts in Minnesota. I look forward to working with MCA to support and expand Minnesota's tradition of exciting and diverse art.
	Dennis Barsness	GLC					
	Robyn Smith	LMN					
	Justin Eichorn •	R					
5A	John Persell •	DFL	Northern Artists ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The Persell family has a long history of artists, and support for the arts, that continues today.
	Matt Bliss	R					
5B	Joe Abeyta	DFL					
	Spencer Igo	R					
6	John J. Moren	R					
	David J Tomassoni •★	DFL					
6A	Julie Sandstede •	DFL	Mesabi Community Orchestra ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The Arts are a critical piece of society and express human emotions - something so necessary during this pandemic.
	Robert (Rob) Farnsworth	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

6B	Julie Buria	R					
	David Lislegard ●	DFL					
7	Donna Bergstrom	R	UMD Tweed ***	Support	No	Agree	In this time of cancel culture, my question is what measures are being taken to ensure the survival of our arts and cultural centers, museums and statutes? Efforts are underway to erase our history.
	Jen McEwen	DFL	Zeitgeist Duluth, the Depot, the Tweed Museum, AICHO, Homegrown Music Fest, etc. ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	People need art. From the beginning of humanity and through to the present - the arts allow us to connect and to find our common humanity. Albert Einstein recognized the meaning of art, "Art is standing with one hand extended into the universe and one hand extended into the world, and letting ourselves be a conduit for passing energy."
7A	Jennifer Schultz ●	DFL	Duluth Art Institute, Glensheen, Tweed Museum ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Artists are helping us during the pandemic and civil unrest--I am so grateful for their contributions to our state.
	Tom Sullivan	R					
7B	Art Johnston	R					
	Liz Olson ●	DFL	The Playhouse ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Access to the arts is an important no matter where in the state you live. A thriving art's community benefits our entire state and requires our investments. I've seen first hand how the Legacy Amendment has brought jobs and economic activity to rural communities that wouldn't have existed before. Additionally, the arts provide critical social opportunities that help our citizens stay connected to one another, building a sense of community resilience, inclusion and innovation.
8	Michele Anderson	DFL	The Kaddatz Galleries ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I've seen first hand how the Legacy Amendment has brought jobs and economic activity to rural communities that wouldn't have existed before. Additionally, the arts provide critical social opportunities that help our citizens stay connected to one another, building a sense of community resilience, inclusion and innovation.
	Bill Ingebrigtsen ●★	R	Quad A Theater, ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	In 2008 when the legacy amendment was passed, I supported the funding for the 4 different areas. As a supporting legislator, I have been on record requiring that these funds have to stay in tact and we must abide by the constitution when these dollars are distributed. And statewide, equally.

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

8A	Brittney Johnson	DFL	The Western Minnesota Steam Thresher's Reunion (I know it may not seem like an arts organization, but as a spinner/knitter, they promote excellent textile arts)	Support	Yes	No Opinion	The Western Minnesota Steam Thresher's Reunion (I know it may not seem like an arts organization, but as a spinner/knitter, they promote excellent textile arts)
	Jordan Rasmusson	R	NR	NR	NR	NR	<p>Thank you for sending me your candidate questionnaire and background information. I appreciate your organization's interest in the political process. As someone who grew-up doing community theatre, I believe strongly in the importance of the arts in strong rural communities.</p> <p>As you are aware, legislation changes regularly. Amendments in committee and/or the House floor can dramatically alter a bill's content and meaning. Support or opposition to a particular proposal can change based upon constituent or stakeholder input.</p> <p>Consequently, I do not believe it is fair to your organization or the members you serve to complete candidate questionnaires that may not be an accurate representation of what I may vote upon in the legislature.</p> <p>I welcome the opportunity to meet with members of your organization who reside in District 8A at any time, and I look forward to working with you in the 2021 legislative session in the event the voters choose to elect me.</p>
8B	Mary Franson ●	R					
	Carol Wenner	DFL					
9	Paul Gazelka ●	R					
	A. John Peters	DFL	Museum of Russian Art ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I do have a problem with some organizations that are declared non-profit, but support political views that have nothing to do with their charter and propertied purpose..
9A	Alex Hering	DFL	art fairs and music fests ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thank you for giving communities access to Regional Arts Council and Music
	John M. Poston ●	R					
	Ron Kresha ●	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

9B	Laura Wright	DFL	Great River Arts, MN Opera, Batcher Block Opera Staples, GREAT, Paramount Center for the Arts, St Francis Music Center, ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I enjoy art, music, culture and the arts - I would really like to see a Regional project, like historic 100+ Batcher Block Opera House (Staples), come to life for the arts and entertainment for Greater Minnesota. The arts bring people together. Thank you for all that you do!
	Carrie Ruud •	R	Lakes Area Music Festival	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	As Chair of the Legacy Committee in the Senate I have pledged to adamantly protect the 47% and with your help and support we have succeeded I look forward to a great relationship next year as we navigate through Covid 19 funding challenges.
10	Steve Samuelson	DFL					
	Josh Heintzeman •	R					
10A	Dale Menk	DFL					
	Dale K Lueck •	R					
10B	Gaylene Spolarich	DFL	None	Enthusiastically Support	No	Agree	Music & Arts are important elements to our children's education, a much stronger presence needs to be implemented in our education systems.
11	Michelle Lee	DFL	Tweed Museum	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts have been important to my family. In particular we enjoy visiting museums. My campaign theme song was written and performed by local artists. My creative volunteers have also worked hard on a COVID careful musical and entertainment campaign event set for August 20th that will feature local talent. It will be broadcast live on social media. As we face these difficult times the arts play a significant role in lifting our hearts and spirits while providing hope to many. Investing in the arts and artists is critical for our communities.
	Jason Rarick •	R					
11A	Jeff Dotseth	R					
	Mike Sundin •	DFL	Oldenberg performances	Support	Yes	Agree	
11B	Jack Frechette	DFL	Pine Center for the Arts	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Proud to be a vocal supporter of the arts in rural Minnesota!
	Nathan Nelson •	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

12	Jill Abahsain	DFL	Central MN Arts Council ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I am an avid supporter of rural Minnesota town culture. The Central MN Arts Council and others are the life-blood of culture in our small towns and a key player in keeping towns valid well into the future.
	Torrey Westrom •	R					
12A	Jeff Backer •	R					
	Murray Smart	DFL	Meander Arts Crawl	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	My wife and one of our daughters are both artists. They enjoy drawing and watercolor. We appreciate our local artists and the opportunities that we have in our rural area. Our local 4-H has been helpful in providing art activities to our local youth. More exposure to art and the arts is always welcome where we live.
12B	Paul Anderson •	R	Central Square Glenwood ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	With the fund-raising efforts of non-profits impacted by the on-going pandemic, it's more important than ever that we protect our current system of allocating Legacy Funding through the state arts board and the Regional Arts Councils.
	Ben Schirmers	DFL					
13	Jeff Howe •	R					
	Michael Willemsen	DFL					
13A	Lisa Demuth •	R					
	Katy Westlund	DFL	Paramount St Cloud ***	Enthusiastically Support	No	No Opinion	I have secured grants/funds for several projects in the St.Cloud area, including a St.John Cantius Gateway Sculpture, Little Library Painted by Kids and art chalk chairs...for people to create art as they walk through a neighborhood. To be a strong voice/advocate for the arts...I do need volunteers and donations to get elected. Please visit www.KatyWestlund.com to see how you can help!
13B	Benjamin Carollo	DFL					
	Tim O'Driscoll •	R					
14	Aric Putnam	DFL	Paramount and GREAT Theaters in St. Cloud ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Every year I look forward to reviewing proposals at the Central MN Arts Board not just because I am exposed to cool art but also because I get to see my community in new ways. Art is good. I will advocate for it.
	Jaden Partlow	LMN					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

	Jerry Relph ●	R	United Arts of St Cloud ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	No Opinion	As a former Board Member of United Arts of Central Minnesota as well as other philanthropic arts organizations, I enthusiastically support the arts. They give our lives richness and meaning and are essential in developing young minds to be creative.
14A	Tamara 'Tami' Calhoun	DFL	Paramount Theatre of the Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I am a musician, clarinet and voice, and have been active in music groups in St. Cloud since 1981. I taught music for 34 years in the St. Cloud Public Schools. I have seen the value of music and the arts with children who are from middle to high income families, children who are in poverty and children who are learning English and the American Culture for the first time in school. The arts allows human expression.
	Tama Theis ●	R					
14B	Paul Brandmire	R	Paramount Center for the Arts	Support	Yes	Agree	I currently serve on the Paramount Center for the Arts Board of Directors. I value the Paramount and its programs for diverse artistic presentations it provides our community.
	Dan Wolgamott ●	DFL	The Paramount ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I would love to partner with you to be a champion for the arts in the MN House!
15	Brent Krist	DFL					
	Andrew Mathews ●	R					
15A	Sondra Erickson ●	R	East Central MN Regional Arts ***	Support	No Opinion	Agree	The arts are essential to the development of our mind and body. I have always appreciated the resources available for both the development of talent and display of talent and will continue to do so.
	Cal Schmock	DFL					
15B	Myron Arthur Wilson	VPM					
	Shane Mekeland ●	R					
	Ron Thiessen	DFL	Great River Theatre St Cloud ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thank you for supporting the arts. This state has a rich tradition of supporting non-profit artist groups and I would continue to support those important efforts to maintain the high quality of life in Minnesota that the arts contribute so richly to.
16	Gary Dahms ●	R	Southwest Minnesota Arts Council ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	We have several rural communities that enjoy the arts due to the legacy arts and cultural funding. This is good for the residence of rural Mimnnesota .
	Steve "Stoney" Preslicka	LMN					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

16A	Doria Drost	DFL	Marshall Area Stage Company	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	As a high school theatre director and community theatre member, I have a strong respect for the arts. It's critical that we continue to advocate on behalf of arts organizations and protect them within our legislature.
	Chris Swedzinski ●	R					
16B	Marinda "Mindy" Kimmel	DFL	The Grand Center for Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	As the daughter of a professional musician, and amateur musician myself, I have seen the benefit arts has had on my community. I intend to be a strong voice for legacy funding and the arts.
	Paul Torkelson ●	R					
17	Fernando Alvarado	DFL	Main Street Willmar ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	No Opinion	<p>The arts are an opportunity to weave the fabric of a community together with song, drawings, paintings, sculpture, quilts, carvings, songs, singing, pottery, photography, poetry, words, corn mazes... The arts are embracing of all ages, colors, gender, personal choices. It knows no boundaries for healing, bridging or hugging ones soul to allow joy, sadness, escape, dreaming and ahhh moments.</p> <p>I love the arts and what they can bring to a community. Ingenuity, creativity and insight amaze me daily. I am so excited about what it does for individuals and communities for pride and growth.</p> <p>(Sorry but I an not going to succeed without financial support from your organization or your partners. Sorry I need to do the ask but I need to ask and if I offend again sorry but I am in tough race and funding is real as real as it is to support the arts. Fernandoformn.com I truly see the arts as a great em-bracer of all.</p>
	Andrew Lang ●	R					
17A	Ben Dolan	DFL					
	Ed Engelmann	LMN					
17B	Tim Miller ●	R					
	Dave Baker ●	R					
18	Logan Kortgard	DFL					
	Scott J Newman ●	R					
	Chad R. Tschimperle	DFL					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

18A	Dean Urdahl ●★	R	Litchfield Opera House ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
18B	Heather Bakke	DFL	Thunderbird Arts	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I love being involved in the arts!
	Glenn Gruenhagen ●	R					
19	Elizabeth Bangert	R					
	Nick Frenz ●	DFL	Twin Valley Council for the Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	In the senate I receive many letters and emails from recipients of PLRAC grants, and they are ALL very appreciative!
19A	Susan Akland	R					
	Jeff Brand ●	DFL					
19B	Luke Frederick	DFL					
	Jeremy Loger	R					
20	Rich Draheim ●	R					
	Jason Hoschette	GLC					
							Though Churchill never actually said it, there is a great meme that attributes the following quote to him after he was asked about cutting funding for the arts to pay for the war against the Axis powers: "Then what are we fighting for?" The sentiment is that the arts, to include painting, sculpting, dance, music, et al, are the lifeblood of any nation's culture. We should be investing in the arts as the creativity that ensues is often a commentary on our times, our challenges, our successes and failures, and our hopes and dreams as a people. You have my support.
	Jon Olson	DFL	Northfield Arts Guild ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
20A	Brian Pfarr	R					
	Erina Prom	DFL					
20B	Todd Lippert ●	DFL					
	Joe Moravchik	R					
21	Mike Goggin ●	R					
	Ralph Kaehler	DFL	Rochester Art Center; Small town "Art in the Park" events; MPLS Science Museum; Many Individual Artist Shops ***	Support	Yes	Agree	The arts provide a means of education, ideas sharing, and emotional and social outlet for many citizens. Access to, and understanding of, the value of arts is an important part of one's education and upbringing.

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

21A	Matt Bruns	DFL	Red Wing Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	No	Agree	The arts a major factor in being well-rounded and grounded. I think about how much playing music means to me. In that creative space with other musicians there's a strong sense of fellowship, while also exploring and pushing the abilities of the individual. Without the expression and release, afforded to me by music, my quality of life would be much lower.
	Barb Haley •	R	Sheldon Theatre, Anderson Center ***	Support	Yes	Agree	My district is home to many arts organizations and community members value artists and their work all across our city. Two recent projects are benches around our downtown and spaces for art along our new bridge.
21B	Steve Drazkowski •	R					
	Elise Diesslin	DFL	Spring Board for the Arts	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	My educational background is in Political Science and Graphic Design. I have had many art classes and exposures to the arts. I wouldn't be where I am today without it.
22	Brian Abrahamson	GLC					
	Shawna Marshall	DFL	Green Earth Players ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Keeping the arts, in all forms, as a vibrant part of our communities is essential.
	Bill Weber •	R					
22A	John Roedl	DFL					
	Joe Schomacker •	R					
22B	Rod Hamilton •	R					
	Lynn Herrick	DFL					
23	David Pulkrabek	LMN					
	Julie Rosen •	R					
23A	Patricia Fahey Bacon	DFL	Red Rock Center	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
	Bjorn Olson	R					
23B	Leroy McClelland	DFL	Maker's Market	Support	No Opinion	Agree	Thank you the arts are a vital part of any society and need to be funded.
	Jeremy Munson •	R					
24	John Jasinski •	R					
	Roger Steinkamp	DFL	Paradise Center for the Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts are the heart and soul of society. Without them we are heartless without a soul.
	John Petersburg •	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

24A	Tom Shea	DFL					Thank you for your interest in my campaign for Minnesota State Representative, District 24A. I am anxious to hear from you or one or more of your members who live in 24A to learn more about Minnesota Citizens for the Arts and consider your public policy objectives. With regard to questionnaires, I have taken the position that I will NOT respond to static questionnaire forms, rather I will be most happy to meet with members of the organization to review and discuss the questions. Doing so will provide me the proper context and objective of the matter and provide me the opportunity to articulate a clear and complete position on any particular item.
	Brian Daniels ●	R					
24B	Ashley Martinez-Perez	DFL					
	Sara Flick	DFL					
25	David H. Senjem ●★	R	Rochester Art Center ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Art initiatives and communities enrich our state and gives it the kind of vibrancy and vitality it needs to be successful. I consider myself a strong supporter of the arts be it associated with bonding projects, my work on the Capitol Art Subcommittee, or in my work associated with Legacy funding.
	Kim Hicks	DFL	Mantorville Theater ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Theater, dance and music is in our blood in this house. We believe people's gifts do not always lie in academic areas and that a strong foundation in art and culture is a foundation in humanities.
25A	Duane Quam ●	R					
	Liz Boldon	DFL	Grey Duck Theater ***	Support	Yes	Agree	I'm committed to supporting the arts as an important and valued part of Minnesotan's lives.
25B	Kenneth L. Bush	R	Rochester Art Center ***	Enthusiastically Support	No	Agree	I love all forms of art! We need art!
	Aleta Borrud	DFL					
26	Carla Nelson ●	R					
	Tina Liebling ●	DFL	***	Support	Yes	No Opinion	The arts are important to Minnesota's economy and quality of life. I know the pandemic has been very hard on the arts community and look forward--with all of you--to seeing it come back strong.
26A	Randy Brock	DFL	Riverside Concerts ***	Support	Yes	Agree	I truly enjoy seeing the arts flourish, and I look forward to giving Minnesotans more opportunities across the state to enjoy the arts.
26B							

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

26B	Nels T. Pierson ●	R	Chatfield center for the arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I have a great appreciation for the arts and culture that our region has helped promote produce and expose people to.
	Tyler Becvar	LMN					
27	Gene Dornink	R					
	Dan Sparks ●	DFL	Austin arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thank you for your past support !
27A	Peggy Bennett ●	R					
	Thomas Martinez	DFL					
27B	Patricia Mueller	R					
	Jeanne Poppe ●	DFL	Austin Area Arts organization ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I have friends and relatives who are artists hit by the impact COVID-19 has wrought. I'm looking forward to getting beyond the pandemic and seeing the arts community in recovery. We all benefit from art, theater, music, mixed media, art and culture.
28							Funding public art enriches our communities in a multitude of ways. It inspires the next generation of artists; it makes social statements that provoke thought and discussion; and it creates an inviting and welcoming space for people to visit our cities and towns. Southeast Minnesota is home to many artists, and their talent enhances our communities. I will work to safeguard funding for the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment that protects and restores Minnesota's wildlife habitats, parks, and funds the arts. This legislation represented the largest arts and cultural amendment in American history and set forth a historic change in how states fund the arts. It also constitutionally protects and restores our lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater, as well as our wetlands and forests, while also supporting parks and trails. Its passage into law is an example of how people with varied interests can work together to advance the greater good. And that's something Minnesotans can all be proud of! Working collaboratively to support joint interests moves us all forward.
	Sarah Kruger	DFL	Great River Shakespeare Festival ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
	Eric Leitzen	N P					
	Jeremy Miller ●★	R	Minnesota Beethoven Festival ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I'm proud to support the Arts!

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

28A	Gene Pelowski Jr. ●	DFL	Marine Art Museum ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	My mother was an artist Who filled her family's home with her paintings and music instilling in them a life long love of the arts.
	Gregory M. Davids ●★	R	Commonweal theatre	Enthusiastically Support	No Opinion	Agree	As you know, I have been a huge supporter of the arts for 28 years in the legislature.
28B							Humans have been creating art for tens of thousands of years. Any form of art -- music, singing, painting, theater, dance, ceramics, sculpture, and so many more -- are very singular and personal creations of a given individual that can speak in a completely unique way to each person who interacts with that art. Art is a method of communication, a truly personal form of expression that is different for each one of us. Art is brought forth from the mind and into the world, sometimes meant strictly for the artist as a means of expression, sometimes for the whole world to experience. Art has power; it can influence a person or a nation. Because art in its many varied forms has been with us for so long, there must be a reason, a need, for us to continue exploring the world around us, trying to express sensations and emotions in a way that can be beneficial to the mind, to the psyche, to the soul. The ability of each person to not only experience art but to create it should be available to all people, should be introduced to students all through school, and can be integrated into our daily lives in ways that inspire, excite, captivate, push boundaries, and make you think. Art is life, imagined and experienced by everyone singularly and uniquely while simultaneously attempting to communicate a perception, a thought, an emotion, to those around us.
	Jordan Fontenello	DFL	The Duluth Depot; Rochester Symphony; Minneapolis Institute of Art; Walker Art Center	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
29	Bruce D. Anderson ●	R					
	Chris Brazelton	DFL	Delano Area Council for Arts and Culture Council ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Art captures and renews the soul and is more necessary than ever in troubled times.
	Mary Murphy	GLC					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

29A	Renee Cardarelle	DFL	Clearwater Community Theater	Support	No Opinion	Agree	I have worked in the non-profit world for over twenty years. I certain support the well-founded intent of this important sector. In my role I have written and received grants from the Legacy Arts and Cultural Fund through the Minnesota State Arts Board. It is a great program! I support it fully. I marked no opinion about diverting money to other programs because there are so many variables there. One of the draw backs I have seen over the years of working in the non-profit industry is that sometimes small, grass roots efforts, especially for communities of color, do not receive the same recognition or support that other places get. I think the Minnesota Arts Board does a good job of trying to circumvent this structural situation, however, I like to leave open the idea that there may be better ways to support other less-hierarchical forms of expression.
	Joseph McDonald ●	R					
29B	Marion O'Neill ●	R					
	Joe Rosh	DFL	Minneapolis Institute of Art ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Promoting and preserving the arts is essential. Local, state, and federal governments must partner with nonprofit organizations to ensure all people have equal access to the arts!
30	Mary Kiffmeyer ●★	R					
	Diane Nguyen	DFL	WE love them all.	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts are important creating inner beauty and energy from one's own mind and imagery. Expression and the arts, drawing and listening and seeing art is a healthy part of life for the brain to go into "nothing box" and create.
30A	Chad Hobot	DFL					
	Paul Novotny ●	R					
30B	Brad Kovach	DFL					
	Eric Lucero ●	R					
	Michelle Benson ●	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

31	Kate Luthner	DFL	Franconia Sculpture park ***	Support	Yes	No Opinion	I support art in all its varied incarnations from traditional painting to modern play sculpture, to stacking rocks by Duluth harbor to listening to our orchestras down town and reading the writing done by local authors in books, websites, and newspapers. My family and I miss the arts in the parks this season and truly hope that when we get back to normal we can see what everyone has created during this time away.
	Brad Brown	DFL	None	Support	Yes	Agree	Arts bring out the best in all of us. We learn to see things in a different way. We are able to appreciate other views of sometimes, the same object, opinion, or idea.
31A	Kurt Daudt •	R					
	Cal (Calvin) K. Bahr •	R					
31B	Susan Larson	DFL					
	Joshua Fike	DFL	Play Inc. ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I've been active in the arts since I was 6 years old and my studies at SJU were primarily in theater. My friends are involved in theater at various levels and I am unwavering in my support of the arts. I will fight to protect the arts and cultural fund and make sure all Minnesotans have access to the enrichment of the arts.
32	Mark Koran •	R					
	Renae Berg	DFL					
32A	Brian Johnson •	R					
	Katie Malchow	DFL					
32B	Anne Neu •	R					
	Laurie J Warner	N P					
33	David Osmek •	R	None	Support	Yes	Agree	
	Gretchen Piper	DFL	***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Arts and history weave together the fabric of our communities, celebrating our differences and our common bonds.
33A	Caitlin Cahill	DFL					
	Jerry Hertaus •	R					
33B	Kelly Morrison •	DFL					
	Andrew Myers	R					
34	Warren Limmer •	R					
	Bonnie Westlin	DFL					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

34A	Brian Raines	DFL	primarily dance/theater ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I believe whole-heartedly in the need for the arts in every community across Minnesota. My son is a dancer, and we are enthusiastic supporters of the arts. Thank you for your work!
	Kristin Robbins ●	R					
34B	Kristin Bahner ●	DFL	Maple Grove Arts Center	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I am proud champion of the Arts and fully support your mission and efforts to ensure that the Arts are accessible to all Minnesotans.
	Dori Trossen	R					
35	Jim Abeler ●	R	Rum River Art Center and others	Support	Yes	Agree	Thanks for all you do.
	David L. Nelson	DFL					
35A	Mike Erickson	DFL	Minnesota Opera ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	There are two components to critical thought. Science and math provide discipline, the arts provide creativity. If you lose one, you lose innovation.
	John Heinrich ●	R					
35B	Jason Ruffalo	DFL					
	Peggy Scott ●	R					
36	Karen Attia	R					
	John Hoffman ●	DFL	Twin Cities Jazz Fest and Blues Fest ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
36A	Bill Maresh	R					
	Zack Stephenson ●	DFL					
36B	Melissa Hortman ●	DFL					
	Scott Simmons	R	Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	As a former orchestral musician that began instrumental music in elementary school, I am greatly concerned that the pandemic's elimination or diminution of in-person classroom instruction will reduce if not entirely eliminate music and performing arts education for thousands of Minnesota children. Availability of the arts, particularly in the schools, is essential for the enrichment of the minds and souls of our youth. The lack of music (my passion) and arts education will have lasting repercussions unless we direct resources to enhance school-age opportunities that are presently endangered.
37	Brad Sanford	R					
	Jerry Newton ●	DFL	MN Opera, Mia, MN Orchestra ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

37A	Erin Koegel ●	DFL	Hennepin Theater Trust ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I would bring my 1 year old daughter to the library for baby story time and learned that that was supported by the Legacy amendment. It was a great opportunity to socialize with other kids and parents while improving her literacy.
	Ken Wendling	R					
37B	Amir Joseph Malik	DFL					
	Nolan West ●	R					
38	Roger Chamberlain ●	R					
	Justin Stofferahn	DFL	Lakeshore Players Theatre in White Bear Lake	Support	Yes	Agree	The Legacy Amendment is a unique and important part of Minnesota that helps create vibrant communities all across our state. It is something we should be proud of and that I will work to defend in the Senate.
38A	Kris Fredrick	DFL	American Swedish Institute and the Minnesota Opera ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts have a way of speaking that words cannot express. It is a reflection of our culture and society, and it breaks down barriers between people. I am a strong supporter of the arts and encourage everyone to enjoy communication through their favorite art medium.
	Donald Raleigh	R	Minnesota Association of Songwriters (MAS - I am a Lifetime Member) ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	For over 25 years I have directly supported local artists in our communities through the purchase of art, and artist services, directly, attending hundreds of events and festivals, donating to local art communities and with memberships in various organizations. Through the company that I own I have donated thousands of dollars and hours in support of our community and I look forward to bringing my business and philanthropic experience to the MN House should I be elected. As a veteran I have seen first hand the healing power of the arts and transformation to be found in both the creation of art and the experience that only art can bring. From poetry to music, from paint to textiles, from spoken word to physical motion, art transcends and brings us together. As Peter Gabriel wrote, "All of the buildings, all of those cars, were once just a dream, in somebody's head" We need to keep dreaming and growing our economy, and the arts play a vital role in making that happen.
	Elliott Engen	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

38B	Ami Wazlawik ●★	DFL	White Bear Center for the Arts	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I'm a big supporter of the arts and look forward to doing all that I can to ensure that our arts community remains vibrant
	Dr. Josiah Hill	DFL	Artspoke Stillwater and Artreach St. Croix	Support	Yes	Agree	Minnesota has a long and proud tradition of supporting the arts community and I hope to enhance and protect this tradition as a member of the MN Senate.
39	Karin Housley ●	R					
	Bob Dettmer ●	R	Franconia Sculpture park ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
39A	Ann Mozey	DFL	Mia ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts are more important than ever to holding our society together, mitigating fear and mental health issues at its core. This is the fabric that holds us all together bound to our common humanity. Peace and love to all.
	Shelly Christensen ●	DFL					
39B	Joe Garofalo	R					
	Chris Eaton ●	DFL					
40	Robert Marvin	R					
	David True	R					
40A	Michael Nelson ●	DFL					
	Charlotte Smith	R					
40B	Mary O'Connor	LMN					
	Samantha Vang ●	DFL					
41	Mary Kunesh-Podein	DFL	Mia ***	Enthusiastically Support	No Opinion	Agree	Arts in Minnesota is an ever-changing opportunity for unique expression of past and present individuals and groups. The benefits of funding the arts are far-reaching and I believe a necessary investment in our communities. I am committed to ensuring we continue to invest in the broad spectrum of the arts that allow the public to view, interact, and participate in.
	Lucia Marina Vogel	R					
41A	Connie Bernardy ●	DFL					
	Susan A. Erickson	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

41B							Until I graduated from UW Madison with my Bachelor's, I expected to move to NYC and become a Broadway star. When that didn't work out, I moved to New Orleans to sing jazz in the French Quarter. Eventually, I ended up in law school and have now been working in the field of immigration law for nearly 20 years. However, I never lost my passion for the arts and my sister, Laura Krider, is deeply embedded in the Twin Cities nonprofit arts community and will hold me accountable if I ever veer from my roots as a lawmaker. I look forward to supporting the arts community once in the legislature. Thanks for this opportunity to complete your candidate questionnaire!
	Sandra Feist	DFL	The Singers (singersmca.org); Border CrosSing; Mia; the Guthrie; ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	
	Ronald Ray Vogel	R					
42	Jason "Ike" Isaacson •	DFL	None	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	As a strong supporter of the arts I hope to earn your endorsement.
	Ben Schwanke	R	Walker Art Center	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	As someone who has very little artistic talent, I really appreciate those that do. As a teacher, I look to nurture students to appreciate the arts. The arts enrich our lives. The GOP needs a strong voice like mine to advocate for the arts and provide leadership for a bipartisan and non-partisan, problem solving group of lawmakers to get things done.
42A	Kelly Moller •	DFL					
	Candy Sina	R	Performing Arts	Support	No Opinion	Agree	NR
42B	Jamie Becker-Finn •	DFL					
	Sue Finney	R					
43	Doug Daubenspeck	GLC					
	Charles "Chuck" Wiger •	DFL	Lakeshore Players ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	We love the arts! Congrats and gratitude to the MN State Arts Board and Regional Arts Councils—you energize, inspire and deliver art for all Minnesotans to enjoy 😊Kudos!Art can be powerful, entertaining, contro Art can be powerful, entertaining, controversial or whatever depending on how it moves you. As Victor Pinchuk observed, "Art, freedom and creativity will change society faster than politics."
	Bob Zick	R					
43A	Paul Babin	R					
	Peter M Fischer •	DFL					
	Jordan Herzog	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

43B	Leon M. Lillie ●★	DFL	Music scene ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Actively support Art Community in personal life and as a Member of the Minnesota House. Been honored to Chair Legacy Committee these last two years and am proud to say Art funding has been solidly protected and enhanced by our efforts. Strongly appreciate the value of arts to Minnesota and our quality of life here.
	Ann Johnson Stewart	DFL					
44	Greg Pulles	R					
	Ginny Klevorn ●	DFL	Walker Art Museum	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I greatly appreciate the work of our regional arts organizations to bring art to our students and our families - meets our community where they are (economically and culturally)
44A	Perry Nouis	R					
	Patty Acomb ●	DFL					
44B	Gary Porter	R	None	Neutral	No Opinion	Agree	I have always been a strong supporter of the Arts. Before my days in the North Dakota State Legislature, I was on the board of the Minot, ND Art Association and well as President of the Minot Symphony Association. However, due to the budget constraints we are going to face in the next session I cannot answer the questions in this questionnaire until I now what kind of fund that we will be dealing with. All I can promise is that I will make sure the Arts get their fair share of the budget over the next two years.
	Roxana Bruins	R	Mia ***	Support	Yes	Agree	Keeping in mind the ever changing and frequently uncertain variables play a huge part in MN local, state and federal governance.
	Ann H. Rest ●	DFL	Minnesota Orchestra	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts are essential to a vital culture.

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

45	Andy Schuler	LMN	Perpich Center for Arts Education ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thank you so much for this opportunity to connect with the electorate as the arts are in my campaign's top five list of most important issues and creating art is my favorite personal activity. I began volunteering at Northwest Community Television in 1996 (when Super VHS was still a thing) and along with some of my friends have utilized this precious resource over the years to learn about film making and television production, feeling blessed with the opportunity to experience the evolution of this medium's technology firsthand. My partner and I both attended Perpich Center for Arts Education in high school and plan on encouraging our daughter to apply as well. I attended the College of Visual Arts for a few semesters and currently design images for non-profits (such as Minnesota NORML, Ecology Democracy Network, and The Center for Election Science) while illustrating a graphic novel about U.S. presidents and American history.
	Cedrick Rommel Frazier	DFL					
45A	Jesse Pfliger	R					
	Ken Fitzgerald	R	Open Window Theater	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Art has the power to lift the spirit and touch the soul.
45B	Mike Freiberg •	DFL					
	Bryan P. Björnson	R					
46	Ron Latz •	DFL					
	Anne Taylor	R					
46A	Ryan Winkler •	DFL	Perpich Center for Arts Education	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Arts of all varieties are one of the unique avenues that allow our children to explore their potential in creative and innovative ways. It is imperative that we continue to fund and promote these programs statewide.
	Melissa Moore	R					
46B	Cheryl Youakim •	DFL	Hopkins Center for the Arts	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Access to the Arts, including art education in our schools, is an incredible asset to all of our communities!
	Julia Coleman	R					
47	Addie Miller	DFL	ACCC***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I am a HUGE supporter of the arts as a music/art/theater lover with many friends who work in the creative industry. Happy to help support the arts however I can.
	Arlan Brinkmeier	DFL					
47A							

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

	Jim Nash •	R					
47B	Greg Boe •	R					
	Dan Kessler	DFL					
48	Steve Cwodzinski •	DFL	Walker Art Museum, Eden Prairie Art Center, Guthrie Theater, ***	Support	Yes	Agree	I am a strong supporter of the arts and frequently go with my family to numerous of Minnesota's excellent art organizations from the Russian Institute of Art to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater. We are lucky in Minnesota to have such a strong and vibrant arts community and I want to continue to nurture that creative spirit.
	Jeff Jiang	R					
48A	Laurie Pryor •	DFL	Minnesota Orchestra ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thank you for your advocacy!
	Eric Wessels	R					
48B	Carlie Kotyza-Witthuhn •	DFL					
	Holly Link	R					
49	Julie Dupré	R					
	Melisa Lopez Franzen •	DFL	My family is a season ticket holders to the Guthrie Theater, my children are enrolled in the MacPhail Center for the Arts, we also go to the Bloomington Civic Theater ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	In my family we enjoy art, music, and theater. We partake in many music and theater performances throughout the year.
49A	Heather Edelson •	DFL					
49B	Steve Elkins •	DFL	Artistry in Bloomington ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The Arts bring us together, even in times like these!
	Joe Thalman	R					
50	Melissa Halvorson Wiklund •	DFL	Artistry ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Arts are a significant part of the high quality of life we have in Minnesota. As we work to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, it will be important to find ways to help Minnesotans in the arts community get through this difficult time.
	Dean Wm Mumbleau	R					
50A	Michael Howard •	DFL					
	Tim Johnson	R					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

50B	Andrew Carlson ●	DFL	Artistry - Theater and Visual Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I was pleased to learn that several Bloomington arts organizations (Bloomington Chorale, Bloomington Symphony Orchestra, and Sidekick Theatre) received Emergency Relief Fund grants from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council for immediate expenses due to loss of earned income because of COVID-19.
	Gary Heyer	R					
51	Jim Carlson ●	DFL	Eagan Art House, Eagan Art Works, Caponi Art Park ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The retirement of Senator Dick Cohen may allow reduced emphasis on the created arts, performing arts and "snowbates" that encourage professional producing in Minnesota. We need to be sure there is continued support for these incentives.
	Douglas D. Willetts	R					
51A	Sandra Masin ●	DFL					
	Patrick J. Zurick	R					
51B	Liz Reyer	DFL	Art Works, Eagan Art Festival, Eagan Theater Company, Caponi Art Park, MIA ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Art is essential for our humanity. As a former music major and lover of visual and performing arts I understand the value of investing in the opportunity to grow arts in our communities. Participating in and enjoying all types of art enriches everyone, young and old. We need to make a priority of funding arts programs so we can all have an equal opportunity to benefit from what art has to offer.
	Fern A. Smith	R	Chanhassen Theatre	Support	Yes	Agree	I believe the arts are a crucial part of life and history. Without the expression of art we lose expressions of who we are. Everyone has some kind of artistic expression that speaks to their heart or perhaps is the only way they can speak. It is part of human nature and should be available for everyone to experience and enjoy.
52	Matt Klein ●	DFL					
	Tomas Settell	R					
52A	Mariah de la Paz	R					
	Rick Hansen ●★	DFL	Minnesota Opera ***	Neutral	No	Agree	I believe grants should be distributed on a population rather than geographic basis and that this will provide greater equity and opportunity. Using the same model for 25 years does not reflect changing realities or needs

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

52B	Cynthia Lonquist	R	Ordway ***	Neutral	No Opinion	Agree	As a musician myself, I would love to see parents be made aware that music will enhance their children's education, social skills, and provide many other lifelong benefits. And unlike many other activities, music is something they can be active in their entire life.
	Ruth Richardson ●	DFL	Penumbra ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thank you MCA for your work!
53	Mary Giuliani Stephens	R					Thank you for sending the survey. I appreciate your interest in the political process. While I will not be filling out the survey, if there are staff or members of your organization who reside in Senate District 53, I would welcome an opportunity to talk/meet with them. And in the event I am elected and honored to serve the voters of this district, my door will be open to meet with you or your representative at anytime.
	Susan Kent ●	DFL	Merrill Community Arts Center ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Providing access to enjoy and participate in the arts -- across all generations and cultures -- is a key part of the quality of life in Minnesota. Previous generations have made this commitment, and I believe strongly that we must carry it forward.
53A	William A. Johnston	R					
	Tou Xiong ●	DFL					
53B	Kelly Jahner-Byrne	R					
	Steve Sandell ●	DFL	HUGE Theater, Mpls ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts are an opportunity to describe ourselves, to explore the ideas and experience of others, to find a personal and intimate voice in a confusing world, and a way to enhance the daily lives we all share. And, of course, they are an enduring document of our collective history. Great work and great thanks to all who support these arts and to all whose art enrich our lives.
54	Karla Bigham ●	DFL	Hennepin Theater Trust	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Arts are a vitally important part of our state's culture, tourism, and economy. We need to protect the investments made in this area.
	Leilani Holmstadt	R					
54A	Anne Claffin ●	DFL					
	Keith Franke	R					
54B	Tony Jurgens ●	R					
	Kelsey Waits	DFL					
	Sahra Odowa	DFL					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

55	Eric Pratt •	R	PL Patrons of the Arts	Support	No Opinion	Agree	I have supported the Arts and Arts Education going back to my time on the School Board. I currently run a program for students called Art at the Capitol, where I display student art during each legislative session
	Erik Mortensen	R					
55A	Ryan Martin	LMN					
	Brad Tabke •	DFL					
55B	Tony Albright •	R					
	Andrea Nelsen	DFL					
56	Dan Hall •	R					
	Lindsey Port	DFL	Burnsville Visual Arts Society	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts allow artists to make their unique contribution to our society and allow those who experience their creations to consider other perspectives and to share in the lives of others. In short, the arts humanize us. We need to support our artists and support easy access to the arts for all Minnesotans.
56A	Jessica Hanson	DFL					
	Pam Myhra	R					
56B	Kaela Berg	DFL					
	Roz Peterson	R	Burnsville Ames Center & Lakeville Art Center ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I have always supported the arts. I ask for your support Thanks!

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

57	Greg Clausen ●	DFL	Rosemount Area Arts Council ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts are important to Minnesota's quality of life and as a former high school principal, I recognize the significance of co-curricular activities as part of the "other curriculum" in our schools. Co-curricular activities complement what a student is learning in the classroom and build the skills to be better prepared for the next stage of their life. Co-curricular activities provide opportunities to build confidence, develop leadership skills and build social relationships, encourage problem solving and time management skills, and the commitment to achieve an end goal. These are life-long skills developed in art and dance studios, on stages and in concert halls, as debaters and marching band members, during science club, as a student newspaper writer, or while participating in individual and team sports. These experiences and skills provide the basis for life-long participation, support and an appreciation for the "other curriculum". activities making Minnesota a place where people want to live.
	Jose W. Jimenez	R					
57A	Robert Bierman ●	DFL	Guthrie Theater	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I was proud to vote for funding the Arts for the first time and will continue to support this integral source of funding for all Minnesotans.
	Megan Olson	R	Music in the Park Series ***	Support	Yes	No Opinion	Thank you for all your organization does. I am happy to chat further about Minnesota Citizens for the Arts' policy initiatives and see how I can be of help.
57B	John Huot ●	DFL	Rosemount Arts , rosemount community band, Apple Valley seen your choir.	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I will always be a supporter of the Minnesota arts. This definitely is one of our values in our house and I know it's a value of our community too.
	Sandra A. Jimenez	R					
58	Zach Duckworth	R					
	Matt Little ●	DFL					
58A	Jon Koznick ●	R					
	Erin Preese	DFL					
58B	Patrick Garofalo ●	R					
	Sara Wolf	DFL					
59	Paul Anderson	R					
	Bobby Joe Champion ●★	DFL					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

59A	Marcus Harcus	GLC					
	Fue Lee ●	DFL					
59B	Esther Agbaje	DFL					
	Alan Shilepsky	R					
60	Kari Dziedzic ●	DFL	NEMAA***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts add value to our community and our a key contributor to our economy.
	Mary Holmberg	R					
60A	John Holmberg	R					
	Sydney Jordan ●	DFL	Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association- Art A Whirl is my favorite! ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Art abundance is one of the best parts of my district. We're home to many working artists who help create neighborhoods beloved by Minnesotans across the state. It is an honor to represent a vibrant arts district and I always welcome ideas for how to better support artists and their work.
60B	Mohamud Noor ●	DFL					
61	Scott Dibble ●★	DFL	Theater Latté Da ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Disagree	The arts are an enormous feature of life in Minnesota. It is easy to take all of this for granted, until one visits another place and understands that we are blessed with unparalleled vibrancy. My family, community and I were heartened to see how the arts community stepped forward in the aftermath of George Floyd's murder, and in this moment of racial reckoning to help us all better see, think, feel, understand, grow and change. And in this time of pandemic quarantine and isolation, the heroic efforts of artists to reach out and sustain connections between all of us have been a blessing beyond all measure. I am in awe of the amazing artists, arts organizations and everyone who works to bring art to our lives in Minnesota. I will always be a solid, steadfast supporter and champion in the legislature.
	Jennifer Zielinski	R					
	Kurtis Fechtmeyer	R					
61A	Frank Hornstein ●	DFL					
61B	Jamie Long ●	DFL	Guthrie Theater	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Minnesota has an incredible arts tradition, and the public support our state provides is critical to our rich arts community. I will continue to strongly support the Legacy amendment and other means of supporting the arts, particularly during this critical time.

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

	Lisa Pohlman	R					
62	Omar Fateh	DFL					
	Bruce Lundeen	R					
62A	Hodan Hassan •	DFL					
	Arjun Kataria	R					
62B	Aisha Gomez •	DFL					
	Ross Tenneson	R					
63	Diane Napper	R					
	Patricia Torres Ray •	DFL	Minneapolis/St Paul Film Society ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	We need to work collectively to support artists and programs that bring us joy, help us preserve and express culture, and build bridges between cultures and communities!
	Chris Wright	GLC					
	Penny Arcos	R					
	Jim Davnie •	DFL	History Theater ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Minnesota's vibrant and multifaceted arts community is key to our states high quality of life. We need to ensure that tradition continues.

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

63A	David Wiester	LMN	None	Neutral	Yes	No Opinion	<p>My campaign is more focused on criminal justice reform and social justice than on the arts.</p> <p>No artist should be imprisoned, fined, or have their property seized for using marijuana. If a low income artist is wrongfully accused of a crime and cannot afford their own attorney, their public defender needs more resources to provide a vigorous defense - hence my position of increasing funding to public defenders' offices. Also, if a low income artist is wrongfully accused of a crime but cannot afford bail to get out of detention, they face weeks or months of lost income and reduced ability to continue paying rent. Many in this predicament feel tempted to accept a plea bargain pleading guilty to something they didn't do just to get out of detention and back to their lives. Instead, suspects who don't warrant preventative detention should be fitted with a wearable GPS tracker and a restraining order telling them not to bother the alleged victim. That way, they can continue making their art, paying their rent, and preparing for trial. Artists will have more time to develop and practice their crafts if they're not struggling to make ends meet. Thus, in addition to raising the minimum wage to \$15/hour, I want to create a wage subsidy for businesses making less than \$1 million in gross receipts per year so that they can adjust to the large wage increase. Also, I want to ban local ordinances against the construction of multi-unit housing so that the affordable housing supply can catch up with demand and, thus, make it easier for up-and-coming artists to find affordable housing. Hopefully, such measures will reduce the number of artists who spend so much time working one or more 'day jobs' to make ends</p>
	Emma Greenman	DFL	The Moving Company Theater (I'm a Board member), MIA, & Mixed Blood Theater ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	<p>The arts play an important role in creating healthy communities and a vibrant region and state. The arts entertain, educate, and connect people of all ages, races, geographies and cultures and help bring us closer together as a Minnesota community. Our investment and support of a diverse variety of arts, artists and arts organizations is a critical component of building a Minnesota where everyone thrives.</p>
63B	Frank Pafko	R					
	Dennis Schuller	LMN					
	Sharon Anderson	R					
	Patricia Jirovec McArdell	LMN					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

64	Erin Murphy	DFL	Minneapolis Institute of Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	The arts are fundamental to who we are as Minnesotans. They are part of our culture, our way of life, our economy, our education. They serve the very important purpose of shaping how we think, how we feel, and how we express ourselves. The arts are part of our DNA.
	Kaohly Her •	DFL	Mu Performing Arts ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Arts is a big part of our family. We have participated in all types of arts organizations including music, musical theater, graphic arts, performing arts, and so much more. My two girls grew up performing for venues all over the Twin Cities. We can't imagine living our lives without the arts organizations and how they have enriched our lives.
64A	Sherry Schack	R					
	Georgia Dietz	R					
64B	Dave Pinto •	DFL	Theatre Latte Da ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	We are blessed to have a thriving arts community in Minnesota – one of the strongest such communities in the country. In theatre, music, visual arts, and so much more, our Minnesota artists enlighten us and enrich our lives.
	Paul Holmgren	R					
65	Sandy Pappas •★	DFL	Minnesota Jewish Theater ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	with Senator Dick Cohen retiring, we need an Arts Caucus in the MN Legislature!
65A	Amy Anderson	R	Mia ***	Support	Yes	Agree	I would like to see a strengthening of all areas of arts education in the public schools.
	Rena Moran •	DFL					
65B	Carlos Mariani •	DFL					
	Margaret Mary Stokely	R					
66	Greg Copeland	R	Minnesota Humanities	Support	No	Agree	We need more Youth and Neighborhood Arts Programs that target low income and seniors as well as children!
	John Marty •	DFL	Theatre in the Round / Franconia Sculpture Park /Guthrie Theater / many other small arts organizations ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thanks to MN Citizens for the Arts and to all of the wonderful artists and arts organizations! Minnesota is blessed with a very large, widespread, and diverse arts community which is so important if we are to thrive as humans. Plus, it is great for our quality of life and economy as well.
66A	Alice Hausman •★	DFL	Ordway Theatre ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	Thanks for all you do!
	Brett Rose	R	Mia ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I grew up being taken to museums and plays. That love for the arts still continues to this day and its a love I proudly share with my daughter.

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award • Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported

66B	Athena Hollins	DFL					
	Mikki Murray	R					
67	Alexander Deputie	R					
	Foung Hawj ●	DFL					
67A	John Stromenger	R					
	John Thompson	DFL	Eastside Arts Council ***	Enthusiastically Support	Yes	Agree	I am looking forward to partnering with Arts in Minnesota to learn more about how we can amplify the art communities. I am also a firm believer in keeping our ancestral and truth telling stories through all forms of arts to preserve history. Let's keep cultivating our vibrant communities and heal together. Thank you.
67B	Fred Turk	R					
	Jay Xiong ●	DFL					

Key: NR=No Response ★ Received Arts All-Star Award ● Incumbent ***and many more organizations supported