



Arizona Action for the Arts Phoenix Mayor and City Council Survey

**Mayoral Candidate
Wes Gullet**



Contact Information
<http://wesgullett.com/>

If elected, will you vote to restore arts and culture funding to the 2003 level in the next fiscal year budget?

Yes. I would increase the arts funding if we institute the savings I have outlined in my Government Reform Plan. I believe we must lower the cost of government and use the savings to first repeal the food tax and then fund after school programs, other youth programs that have been cut, invest in public safety infrastructure and economic development tools which I consider arts funding to be. I believe it is a hollow promise to say that you will increase arts funding without having identified a source of funds.

A common metric for arts funding nationally over the last 30 years has been \$1 per capita. The current population of Phoenix is 1.4 million, suggesting an arts budget of \$1.4 million. Would you support increasing the city arts grant budget to that level? If so, how soon?

Yes. I agree with increasing funding but it must be associated with cuts in other places such as those outlined in my Government Reform Plan available at www.wesgullett.com.

Do you support other means of restoring City of Phoenix funding to local non-profit arts and culture organizations?

Yes. I am a proponent of taking an Arts and Culture funding system to the ballot that would significantly increase public support for Arts and Culture. Arts and Culture are a key ingredient to building the diverse and sustainable economy of the future. We can make that case to the voters and with their approval we can make a huge difference for our current and future institutions.

Please describe what you believe is the appropriate role for the City of Phoenix in fostering arts and culture for our citizens and visitors:

In my Seven Point Jobs Plan that is available at www.wesgullett.com I outline the importance of leadership. There is no better example of where leadership is needed than in Arts and Culture. Phoenix needs a Mayor who will be a champion for our vibrant arts and culture community. We must take advantage of the great assets we have like Roosevelt Row, Grand Avenue, the museum district and Papago Park and make them even more vibrant.

Since 1986, the City of Phoenix has managed a public art program funded by a percentage of the city's own capital improvement budget that is recognized internationally for helping to enhance the city's public facilities and spaces and creating the city's identity and attractiveness as a desirable place to live. Do you support continuation of the public art program?

Yes.

Please describe your personal involvement in the arts, as a participant, patron, performer, educator, etc.

I am a member of the Board of Directors of Arizona Citizens for the Arts. I directed the effort to develop a statewide initiative to fund Arts and Culture. I have been a patron of the Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix Symphony, Childsplay, and many other arts and culture organizations. I support the arts and advocate for the arts as a vital element of our economic vitality.



Arizona Action for the Arts Phoenix Mayor and City Council Survey

Mayoral Candidate
Greg Stanton



Contact Information

<http://www.gregstantonformayor.com/>

If elected, will you vote to restore arts and culture funding to the 2003 level in the next fiscal year budget?

Yes. In my nine years on the city council, I was a consistent supporter of arts and culture, including service as chair of the city council Arts and Culture Subcommittee. I believe strongly that quality economic development and a vibrant arts and culture community go hand in hand. Thus, restoring funding to arts programs (capital funding and arts grants) is critical as soon as the budget allows.

A common metric for arts funding nationally over the last 30 years has been \$1 per capita. The current population of Phoenix is 1.4 million, suggesting an arts budget of \$1.4 million. Would you support increasing the city arts grant budget to that level? If so, how soon?

Yes. As arts advocates know, I have long believed that funding arts grants at \$1 per person annually was a fair and achievable goal. The mayor needs to use the "bully pulpit" of the office to make the case to the people of Phoenix why arts funding is so critical. I believe that goal can be achieved over 3 to 4 budget cycles.

Do you support other means of restoring City of Phoenix funding to local non-profit arts and culture organizations?

Yes. Phoenix has successfully and appropriately utilized its bond program. to support arts organizations (Carver Museum, Phoenix Youth Theater, Phoenix Art Museum, Symphony Hall upgrades, Herberger Theater, etc). As mayor, I am committed that arts organizations will fully participate in and benefit from the next bond program.

Please describe what you believe is the appropriate role for the City of Phoenix in fostering arts and culture for our citizens and visitors:

The City of Phoenix, and the Mayor in particular, must be front and center in advocating for the arts. The city should provide arts education programming in its after school programs, ensure quality facilities are available for performing arts, maintain an active percent for the arts program, and provide grant funding to arts organizations. Most importantly, the mayor should speak loudly and often about the importance of the arts to the future of our city, particularly as it relates to quality economic development. This will build community support for the arts and create additional corporate support for the arts. Finally, the Mayor must ensure that the arts supported by our city reflects the wonderful diversity that makes up our city.

Since 1986, the City of Phoenix has managed a public art program funded by a percentage of the city's own capital improvement budget that is recognized internationally for helping to enhance the city's public facilities and spaces and creating the city's identity and attractiveness as a desirable place to live. Do you support continuation of the public art program?

Yes. I have been a consistent and strong supporter of this program, including support for "Her Secret is Patience." I will continue to be an active supporter.

Please describe your personal involvement in the arts, as a participant, patron, performer, educator, etc.

I have served on the board of Arizona Theatre Company (at the request of Jessica Andrews). I served as chair of the city council Arts and Culture Subcommittee and served on the Maricopa Regional Task Force on Arts and Culture. I am an active user of the arts (both for myself and as a parent of two young children), including: Phoenix Art Museum, Childsplay, First Fridays, The Great Arizona Puppet Theater, Children's Museum of Phoenix, Bentley Projects, Phoenix Symphony Actors Theatre, Heard Museum, Schemer Art Center ,Japanese Friendship Garde,n Valley Youth Theatre, Desert Botanical Garden. In addition, my wife is an active arts leader and avid supporter of the arts. She was one of the founding board members of the Women's Metropolitan Arts Council ("WoMAC"). Intended to be the equivalent of the Men's Arts Council, WoMAC is one of the ten support organizations within the Phoenix Art Museum. Started in 2005, the organization is now over 100 members strong and is contributing to the financial support of the Phoenix Art Museum.



Arizona Action for the Arts Phoenix Mayor and City Council Survey

City Council District 1 Candidate Eric Fredrick	Contact Information http://www.electfredrick.com/
If elected, will you vote to restore arts and culture funding to the 2003 level in the next fiscal year budget?	Did not respond
A common metric for arts funding nationally over the last 30 years has been \$1 per capita. The current population of Phoenix is 1.4 million, suggesting an arts budget of \$1.4 million. Would you support increasing the city arts grant budget to that level? If so, how soon?	Did not respond
Do you support other means of restoring City of Phoenix funding to local non-profit arts and culture organizations?	Did not respond
Please describe what you believe is the appropriate role for the City of Phoenix in fostering arts and culture for our citizens and visitors:	Did not respond
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Please describe your personal involvement in the arts, as a participant, patron, performer, educator, etc.	Did not respond



Arizona Action for the Arts Phoenix Mayor and City Council Survey

City Council District 1 Candidate
Thelda Williams



Contact Information
Thelda01@cox.net

If elected, will you vote to restore arts and culture funding to the 2003 level in the next fiscal year budget?

Yes, I support restoring the funding when the economy improves and funds are available.

A common metric for arts funding nationally over the last 30 years has been \$1 per capita. The current population of Phoenix is 1.4 million, suggesting an arts budget of \$1.4 million. Would you support increasing the city arts grant budget to that level? If so, how soon?

Yes, the projected recovery is 2014. Hopefully it will be sooner.

Do you support other means of restoring City of Phoenix funding to local non-profit arts and culture organizations?

Yes, performing arts, opera, musical venues, and other traditional organizations that have received funding.

Please describe what you believe is the appropriate role for the City of Phoenix in fostering arts and culture for our citizens and visitors:

Phoenix has been a leader in its public art program. Arts are an essential part of a successful community.

Since 1986, the City of Phoenix has managed a public art program funded by a percentage of the city's own capital improvement budget that is recognized internationally for helping to enhance the city's public facilities and spaces and creating the city's identity and attractiveness as a desirable place to live. Do you support continuation of the public art program?

Yes

Please describe your personal involvement in the arts, as a participant, patron, performer, educator, etc.

Patron



Arizona Action for the Arts Phoenix Mayor and City Council Survey

City Council District 5 Candidate
Brenda Sperduti



Contact Information
<http://www.sperduti.net/>

If elected, will you vote to restore arts and culture funding to the 2003 level in the next fiscal year budget?

Yes. Given the opportunity to vote to restore the funding to 2003 levels, I would vote in the affirmative. However, anticipating a slower economic recovery, I promise to work hard to build back the funding levels as soon as fiscally possible. It may take several years, but with the help of our passionate grassroots advocates I believe we can do it. I would aim for \$1 per capita investment in the arts.

A common metric for arts funding nationally over the last 30 years has been \$1 per capita. The current population of Phoenix is 1.4 million, suggesting an arts budget of \$1.4 million. Would you support increasing the city arts grant budget to that level? If so, how soon?

Yes, as I said this will be my goal. How soon that can happen is unknown, but the sooner the better. The arts and culture sector provides a great deal in return for the small investment the city makes. I would like to see Phoenix take the lead in the Southwestern U.S. by shining a bright spotlight on our vibrant arts and culture amenities. Through our support of the arts we enhance the economic and built environment that is so important to tourism and business sectors. The arts also create jobs and generate tax revenue. It's truly good business.

Do you support other means of restoring City of Phoenix funding to local non-profit arts and culture organizations?

I support other financial support such as facility rent support to those organizations located in city-owned buildings, bond support for capital improvements and utility support. I would be amenable to exploring other types of support for the sector because it is so important to our city's vibrancy.

Please describe what you believe is the appropriate role for the City of Phoenix in fostering arts and culture for our citizens and visitors:

The city launched the Office of Arts and Culture in 1985 to advance the growth and development of the arts and cultural sector. As a city we hold a strong interest in ensuring the sector not only provides opportunities for our citizens to partake in the arts, but also increase the availability of opportunities to explore careers in the arts, learning through arts education and healing through the arts. There are many ways that the arts touch and improve the lives of our citizens. The city must remain diligent in protecting the investment that has been made in this sector.

Since 1986, the City of Phoenix has managed a public art program funded by a percentage of the city's own capital improvement budget that is recognized internationally for helping to enhance the city's public facilities and spaces and creating the city's identity and attractiveness as a desirable place to live. Do you support continuation of the public art program?

Absolutely support the continuation of the Percent for Art program.

Please describe your personal involvement in the arts, as a participant, patron, performer, educator, etc.

My involvement with the arts has been extensive. Beginning in the early 1980's I represented American Express for 12 years at a time when they were ahead of the curve in corporate arts philanthropy. I went on to serve as the Founding Board Chair of Business Volunteers for the Arts Phoenix (now the Phoenix Arts & Business Council). I led the team that created the Business in the Arts Awards Breakfast which recently celebrated its 20th year. Additionally, I served on the Phoenix Arts and Culture Commission for six years and have been a board or committee member for many arts organizations and actively worked to promote policy initiatives including: the Phoenix Percent for the Arts, the State's ArtShare endowment and the first effort at a statewide arts ballot initiative. Most recently, I served more than three years as Executive Director of Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts. I've lobbied locally, at the state level and nationally for continued public support for the arts and arts education in our schools. My family and I attend many arts and culture related events throughout the Valley.



City Council District 5 Candidate
David Valenzuela



Contact Information

<http://www.daniel4phx.com/>

If elected, will you vote to restore arts and culture funding to the 2003 level in the next fiscal year budget?

Did not respond

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Please describe your personal involvement in the arts, as a participant, patron, performer, educator, etc.

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