

## 2022 NFTA/NATA Candidate Survey – School Board

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Please complete the following general information. Thank you.

Candidate Name: **Sherry Jones**  
Candidate District: **6**  
Candidate Email Address: **ebeljones92@gmail.com**

### 2022 Candidate Questions

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1. The State of Nebraska has content area standards in the fine arts, which includes media arts, visual arts, dance, music, and theatre. How important do you think it is for schools to have content-specific certified teachers in the arts?
  - Essential
  - High Priority**
  - Medium Priority
  - Low Priority
  - Not a Priority
  
2. The State of Nebraska has content area standards in the fine arts, which includes media arts, visual arts, dance, music, and theatre. How important do you think it is for students to have access to arts education courses?
  - Essential
  - High Priority**
  - Medium Priority
  - Low Priority
  - Not a Priority
  
3. Are you aware of an agency of state government – the Nebraska Arts Council (NAC) – whose mission is to support the arts, humanities and creative activities in Nebraska?
  - Very Aware**
  - Moderately Aware
  - Slightly Aware
  - Not Aware
  
4. In FY2021-22, the Nebraska Arts Council invested \$1.9 million in state general appropriations in grants and services across the state to support arts programs and access, arts education programs, and supporting local arts councils and organizations. NAC grants can be used to support and enhance arts learning in school. Which statement below best reflects your view?
  - The NAC should receive an increase in state funding in the coming fiscal year.
  - The NAC should receive the same amount of state funding in the coming fiscal year.**

- The NAC should receive a decrease in state funding in the coming fiscal year.
- No opinion at this time.

5. How aware are you with the Nebraska certified Creative District program?

- Very Aware
- Moderately Aware
- Slightly Aware
- Not Aware**

6. U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributed \$3 billion to Nebraska's economy in 2020, representing 2.2% of the state's GDP, 26,888 jobs, and total compensation of \$1.8 billion. How important do you feel state appropriations and policies to advance Nebraska's creative industries (including arts, cultural, historical, humanities, science, and arts education resources) are in relation to creating a strong economic future for Nebraska?

- Extremely Important
- Very Important
- Moderately Important**
- Slightly Important
- Not at all Important

7. Nebraska adults have one of the highest the highest participation rate in the U.S. in annually attending an art exhibit or arts performance. Is there a specific arts or culture organization in your part of the state that you or your family particularly enjoy, or do you have an artistic talent or hobby?

- Yes**
- No

If yes, please list your talent/hobby and your favorite organization(s) here:

**We have attended GILT (Grand Island Little Theater) productions over the years, Children's Theater events (a daughter participated), supported Wings Over the Platte and other arts-related functions and exhibits at Stuhr Museum in Grand Island, and area high school musical performances over the years. All 4 of our children played an instrument in middle school and/or high school band. One of our daughters participated in vocal music at the high school level, and took piano and dance lessons as a young child. Personally, I enjoy knitting and have done so since I was 10 years old. I've held knitting clubs for 5th graders in several elementary schools over the years. I also played an instrument in the band back in the day!**

Other comments:

**I believe the arts contribute to brain development in our children and add such value to our lives.**

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If you would like additional information about the participating organizations, please contact NFTA Executive Director Petra Wahlqvist (402.817.8176, [petra@nebraskansforthearts.org](mailto:petra@nebraskansforthearts.org)) or view the following websites:

Nebraskans for the Arts ([www.nebraskansforthearts.org](http://www.nebraskansforthearts.org))

Nebraska Arts Teachers Association ([www.nebraskaarteducators.org](http://www.nebraskaarteducators.org))