



## 2024 Candidate Arts Survey Responses

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### Jason Prokop

State Legislative District: **27**

Candidate's Website: [jasonprokop.com](http://jasonprokop.com)

**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)*

Very aware

**In FY2023-24, the Nebraska Arts Council invested \$2.6 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. Most grant dollars required a 1:1 match from private sources. Which statement below best reflects your view?**

*(Increase in state funding, receive the same amount, decrease in state funding, no opinion at this time)*

The NAC should receive an increase in state funding in the coming fiscal year.

**How aware are you of the Nebraska Cultural Endowment and the Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund (CPEF)?** *(very aware, moderately aware, slightly aware, not aware)*

Very aware

**The State of Nebraska has curriculum standards in the fine arts, which include art, music, theater, dance, and media arts. However, we have a teacher shortage impacting access to arts education. How important do you think it is for our state to focus on teacher recruitment and retention in order to provide content-specific certified teachers in the arts?**

*(essential, high priority, medium priority, low priority, not a priority)*

Essential

**U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributed \$3.6 billion to Nebraska's economy in 2022, representing 2.21% of the state's GDP, 31,228 jobs, and total compensation of \$2.1 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?** *(very important, moderately important, slightly important, not at all important)*

Very important

**How aware are you with the Nebraska Creative District program? Are you aware there are currently 30 certified Creative Districts that are driving economic development in their community.** *(very aware, moderately aware, slightly aware, not aware)*

Moderately aware

**There are currently 30 certified Creative Districts that are driving economic development in their community. Do you know if one of your communities in your legislative district is a certified Creative District?** *(yes, no, not aware at this time)*

Yes

**Nebraska adults have one of the highest participation rates 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

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

My family and I enjoy going to the Lied Center for Performing Arts to attend performances. We also make it a priority to attend the Pinewood Bowl summer outdoor musical and always visit the Lincoln Arts Council's Art Festival every year. We also have attended family classes offered by the Lux Center for the Arts. Beyond that, my daughter participates in Lincoln Public Schools choral and orchestra programs. Both of my children also take private music lessons from a local music educator, and my daughter participates in dance.

**Additional Comments from the candidate:**

I understand the importance of state support for the arts and humanities. These investments are investments in our future, as they contribute to the well-being of our communities and inspire the next generation of creative thinkers. By supporting these efforts, we can create a vibrant environment that attracts and retains families in Nebraska.