

KINGSTON VOTES 2026:
Candidate Survey on the Arts and Culture in Kingston

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How do you see the role of arts and culture in Kingston?

Arts and culture are a big part of what makes Kingston feel like Kingston. They bring people together, create opportunities to participate and connect, and make our city more interesting and welcoming for the people who live here.

They also matter economically. Our music, festivals, galleries, film, theatre and cultural experiences are part of what draws people to Kingston and supports local businesses and tourism.

Looking ahead, I think the City's role is to help create the conditions where artists, cultural organizations and community-led initiatives can continue to grow and contribute to the life of the city.

What role should the City of Kingston play in supporting a sustainable arts and culture sector?

The City should be a steady partner. That means maintaining fair, accessible funding, supporting the spaces and services that allow artists and organizations to do their work, and making sure arts and culture are considered as we plan neighbourhoods, public spaces, tourism and major community events.

Support has to be sustainable for the sector and reasonable for taxpayers. The goal should be a strong local arts community that has room to grow and remains accessible to Kingston residents.



If elected, are there any actions you would take to help strengthen Kingston's arts and culture sector?

I'd focus on making the City a reliable partner to the sector. That means protecting effective funding programs, reducing unnecessary barriers for artists and organizations, and looking for opportunities to use City spaces, events and tourism partnerships to help more people experience local arts and culture.

I'd also want to make sure we're listening to the sector about what actually gets in the way of doing the work. Sometimes the best support is funding; sometimes it's access to space, promotion, simpler processes or stronger connections between organizations. I'd support practical steps that help local artists and cultural organizations spend more time creating and less time navigating City systems.

Additional Comments

Kingston's arts and culture community helps bring people together and gives the city much of its character.

I know many artists and organizations are doing that work with limited resources. I think the City should keep listening, support what is working, and look for practical ways to make it easier for the sector to succeed.

I want Kingston to remain a place where arts and culture are valued as part of everyday community life.