

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?

I see arts and culture as an important part of what makes Kingston a great place to live. They help shape our identity, bring people together, and give residents opportunities to express themselves and connect with their community.

The arts and culture sector also contributes to our local economy by supporting artists, small businesses, tourism, and jobs. From local festivals and live performances to galleries, museums, and community programs, these activities make Kingston a more vibrant place to live and visit.

Looking to the future, I believe the City has a role to play in supporting a strong arts and culture sector while being responsible with public funds. This means working with local artists and organizations, making cultural opportunities accessible to residents of all ages and backgrounds, and recognizing the value of our existing cultural spaces.

A thriving arts and culture sector helps build a stronger community, supports our local economy, and ensures Kingston remains a place where people want to live, work, and raise a family.



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

The City should be a partner in building a sustainable arts and culture sector. That means listening to local artists and organizations, reducing barriers where possible, and providing clear and fair access to grants, spaces, and other forms of support.

I also believe the City should plan for the long term. This includes maintaining public cultural spaces, supporting local events, and working with community groups to find ways to make arts and culture accessible without placing the full burden on taxpayers.

Public funding should be transparent, with clear goals and regular reviews to ensure it is making a difference. The City cannot fund every request, but it can help create an environment where local artists and cultural organizations can grow, attract visitors, support jobs, and contribute to Kingston's quality of life.

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

If elected, I would start by listening to local artists, cultural organizations, and residents to understand the challenges they face and where the City can make a real difference.

I would support transparent and fair funding, look for ways to make City-owned spaces more accessible for local events and performances, and explore partnerships that help artists and cultural organizations reach more people. I would also look at ways to include local arts and culture in community events and support opportunities for young people to get involved.

Any new spending would need to be weighed against other municipal priorities. My goal would be to find practical ways to support local talent, strengthen community connections, and help Kingston's arts and culture sector remain sustainable for years to come.



Additional Comments

I want to thank the artists, volunteers, and organizations who help make Kingston such a vibrant community. Much of this work takes time, dedication, and personal sacrifice, and its value goes beyond what can be measured in dollars.

I believe a strong city is one where people have opportunities to create, share ideas, and take part in their community. Arts and culture help make that possible. If elected, I would welcome the chance to listen to those working in the sector and work with them to find practical ways the City can help.