

Daniel Hernandez
House of Representatives
Legislative District 2
Party: Democrat

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From the choices below, please identify the top five most pressing issues you believe the Arizona Legislature must deal with in the next session.

Stimulating Arizona's economy and creating more good quality jobs.

Increasing funding for K-12 schools.

Supporting the contributions that Arizona's creative sector makes to local economies and state tourism.

Increasing funding to our state universities.

Improving our state highways and transportation infrastructure.

How would you describe the importance of arts and culture resources to the development of our state?

As a state Arizona has a damaged reputation due to the poor decisions that have come out of the State Legislature for the last two decades or so. One of the ways we will dig ourselves out of the hole we are in is by showcasing the great things our state has to offer.

What role should the state play in investing in and assuring that nonprofit arts and culture experiences are available to all Arizonans?

From Native arts to a great and burgeoning music, dance and art scene the arts will be a vital part of restoring Arizona's image. It will also continue to attract people to our state. Arts should be held in the same regards as other state resources and should be cared for and nurtured as other resources are. That also means ensuring that we provide equitable access to all Arizona not just those in mid to high income brackets.

Would you support the gradual restoration of funding for the Arizona Commission on the Arts to prerecession levels?

Yes. We need to invest in the arts. As a school board member I know the importance of investing in the arts and have been a proponent of Fine Arts curricula being expanded.

General fund appropriations? Another funding stream? Any other ideas?

As board president of Sunnyside I was lead on the building of a k-8 fine arts magnet school. My dedication would be to at least move towards restoration to pre recession levels and work with stakeholders to identify new revenue streams that are sustainable.



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<p>How else could you as an elected official encourage the development of arts and culture resources and incorporate them into the development of our state and local economies?</p>	<p>I would continue the work I've done at the school board. Using both facts and feelings. For those who need data working to show the deep impact that the arts have on our economy. And then appealing to the need for arts to ensure we have a state that is not merely functioning but thriving. Which without a vibrant and healthy arts scene our state can not thrive.</p>
<p>Please select from the following statements which best reflects your philosophy about public support for arts, culture, and arts education in Arizona.</p>	<p>Public support for the nonprofit arts and culture sector is a necessary investment in our local economies, quality of life in our communities and educational experiences for our families and children.</p>
<p>Please discuss what impact you believe arts and culture has on your local communities, e.g. individual artists, nonprofit performing arts, museums of various kinds, zoos or botanical gardens.</p>	<p>It is a vital and necessary part of our communities. Without art we merely exist. In order to thrive we need arts.</p>
<p>Please describe your personal participation and/or interest in arts and culture, e.g. professional or amateur visual or performing artist, a patron, board service, financial support, participation in your youth, favorite arts or culture institution, etc.).</p>	<p>Please see above for work on SUSD board. I've also been a big supporter of the arts from magnet middle school when one of my teachers took our class to see live plays and operas. I try and go see live performances when I can though not nearly as much as I'd like.</p>
<p>How would you insure that the benefits of a quality arts education available to every student in Arizona's K-12 schools?</p>	<p>By funding and advocating for STEAM at the k-12 level. Also work to create a declaration attesting to the importance of this kind of education.</p>
<p>Would you support the inclusion of arts education in education reform measures that identify curricula, funding formulas or incentives designed to improve education outcomes for our students.</p>	<p>Yes. This has been part of why I'm a fan of expanded STEM education that is now referred to as STEM to include music and arts. That's the model I introduced in Sunnyside.</p>

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