



Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 8

Sharon Girard
Arizona Senate
Legislative District 8
Party: Democrat

Contact Information
 PO Box 906
 Eloy, AZ 85131
 (305) 803-1560
 Sharon@girard4azsenate.com

Please rank each of the issues identified below according to how critical they are to building Arizona's future, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Important, 2 - Not Very Important, 3 - Somewhat Important, 4 - Very Important, 5 - Extremely Important

Stimulating Arizona's economy and creating more good quality jobs.	5 - Extremely Important
Increased funding for K-12 schools.	5 - Extremely Important
Providing diverse opportunities for university and postsecondary education.	4 - Very Important
Protecting and stewarding Arizona's natural resources, e.g. air quality, water.	5 - Extremely Important
Preserving and promoting Arizona's unique cultural heritage and resources.	5 - Extremely Important
Leveraging Arizona arts as a means of community and economic development, attracting businesses and enriching education.	5 - Extremely Important

I have been involved with community theater for over 30 years and was a professionally trained ballerina. I know how important the arts are to the community. My husband is the Santa Fe artist, Kirk Tatom. We both are committed to providing all arts for the community

Please rank how effective the non-profit arts and culture sector is at supporting the following community priorities, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Effective, 2 - Not Very Effective, 3 - Somewhat Effective, 4 - Very Effective, 5 - Extremely Effective

Supporting local community development, e.g. downtown revitalization, neighborhood redevelopment.	5 - Extremely Effective
Providing a well-rounded education for our K-12 students.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting local business and attracting and retaining new businesses.	5 - Extremely Effective
Encouraging tourism.	5 - Extremely Effective
Making Arizona a place citizens want to live and raise their families.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting community health by directing programs and services to groups such as veterans, seniors, young people, and the cognitively and physically challenged.	5 - Extremely Effective

As a healthcare professional for over 35 years I know how important the arts are to the health and welfare of a community.

Given the value of the nonprofit arts and culture sector to the state, how would you support the eventual restoration of funding for the Arizona Commission on the Arts to pre-recession levels?

 Return to a General Fund appropriation which is built into the budget base.

To ensure all K-12 students have access to standards-based arts education and the benefits it can have on their academic performance and the overall learning environment, how would you encourage more attention and resources for arts education?

- Support audited reporting about arts education course offerings and student enrollment in any existing school "report card" or certificates of assurance required by state law.
- Credit in the A-F school report card for student participation and achievement in standards-based arts education.
- Establishment of a Fine Arts Seal -- similar to the Civics Literacy Seal -- to be affixed to the diplomas and noted in the transcripts of graduating students with advanced achievement in high school Fine Arts.

Please discuss what impact you believe arts and culture has on your local community, e.g. individual artists, nonprofit performing arts, museums of various kinds, zoos or botanical gardens.

As a dancer and actress and past community theater board member I support and will continue to support arts for all. We need the arts as an important part of our culture, life and community support. The arts have taught me many lessons in my life and no child should have a life and education devoid of the arts. The arts should be incorporated into all young lives and be a vibrant part of community life. We also need to support state dance companies, theater, fine art, museums and performing arts of all types.

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 by your children, etc.

Actor, producer, director, choreographer for community theater. Professionally trained ballet dancer and dance teacher. Husband is Santa Fe sculptor and painter, Kirk Tatom. Board VP for the New Mexico Ballet Company.



Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 8

Carmen Casillas
Arizona House of Representatives
Legislative District 8
Party: Democrat

Contact Information
208 East Apache Street
Globe, AZ 85501
(602) 618-6479
ccasillas@cableone.net

Please rank each of the issues identified below according to how critical they are to building Arizona's future, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Important, 2 - Not Very Important, 3 - Somewhat Important, 4 - Very Important, 5 - Extremely Important

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

5 - Extremely Important

Increased funding for K-12 schools.

5 - Extremely Important

Providing diverse opportunities for university and postsecondary education.

5 - Extremely Important

Protecting and stewarding Arizona's natural resources, e.g. air quality, water.

5 - Extremely Important

Preserving and promoting Arizona's unique cultural heritage and resources.

5 - Extremely Important

Leveraging Arizona arts as a means of community and economic development, attracting businesses and enriching education.

5 - Extremely Important

Please rank how effective the non-profit arts and culture sector is at supporting the following community priorities, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Effective, 2 - Not Very Effective, 3 - Somewhat Effective, 4 - Very Effective, 5 - Extremely Effective

Supporting local community development, e.g. downtown revitalization, neighborhood redevelopment.	5 - Extremely Effective
Providing a well-rounded education for our K-12 students.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting local business and attracting and retaining new businesses.	5 - Extremely Effective
Encouraging tourism.	5 - Extremely Effective
Making Arizona a place citizens want to live and raise their families.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting community health by directing programs and services to groups such as veterans, seniors, young people, and the cognitively and physically challenged.	5 - Extremely Effective

Given the value of the nonprofit arts and culture sector to the state, how would you support the eventual restoration of funding for the Arizona Commission on the Arts to pre-recession levels?

 Annual percentage of the Rainy Day Fund set in statute.

To ensure all K-12 students have access to standards-based arts education and the benefits it can have on their academic performance and the overall learning environment, how would you encourage more attention and resources for arts education?

- Credit in the A-F school report card for student participation and achievement in standards-based arts education.
- Establishment of a Fine Arts Seal -- similar to the Civics Literacy Seal -- to be affixed to the diplomas and noted in the transcripts of graduating students with advanced achievement in high school Fine Arts.

Please discuss what impact you believe arts and culture has on your local community, e.g. individual artists, nonprofit performing arts, museums of various kinds, zoos or botanical gardens.

The value of arts and culture to people and society is the existing evidence on the impact on our economy, health, wellbeing, society and education. It also affects the sense of self, through painting, sculpture, music, theatre, etc.

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 by your children, etc.

My personal participation and interest in Arts and Culture was when I was the chairperson for "La Reina de Las Flores" in Globe, AZ. Through music, dance, (Ballet Folklorico) and the attempt to start a class for young individuals who wanted to learn an instrument to become part of a Mariachi Band



Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 8

David Cook
Arizona House of Representatives
Legislative District 8
Party: Republican

Contact Information
 1018 S Ice House Canyon Rd
 Globe, AZ 85501
 (928) 701-3021
 cook4office@gmail.com

Please rank each of the issues identified below according to how critical they are to building Arizona's future, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Important, 2 - Not Very Important, 3 - Somewhat Important, 4 - Very Important, 5 - Extremely Important

Stimulating Arizona's economy and creating more good quality jobs.	4 - Very Important
Increased funding for K-12 schools.	5 - Extremely Important
Providing diverse opportunities for university and postsecondary education.	4 - Very Important
Protecting and stewarding Arizona's natural resources, e.g. air quality, water.	5 - Extremely Important
Preserving and promoting Arizona's unique cultural heritage and resources.	5 - Extremely Important
Leveraging Arizona arts as a means of community and economic development, attracting businesses and enriching education.	5 - Extremely Important

Comments: We passed 301 and the 20x2020 plan - now it's time to follow through with the remaining additional assistance and 10% for the teacher pay raises.

Please rank how effective the non-profit arts and culture sector is at supporting the following community priorities, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Effective, 2 - Not Very Effective, 3 - Somewhat Effective, 4 - Very Effective, 5 - Extremely Effective

Supporting local community development, e.g. downtown revitalization, neighborhood redevelopment.	5 - Extremely Effective
Providing a well-rounded education for our K-12 students.	3 - Somewhat Effective
Supporting local business and attracting and retaining new businesses.	3 - Somewhat Effective
Encouraging tourism.	5 - Extremely Effective
Making Arizona a place citizens want to live and raise their families.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting community health by directing programs and services to groups such as veterans, seniors, young people, and the cognitively and physically challenged.	3 - Somewhat Effective

Comments: The Arts is something that bis community based focused on. They bring the culture to communities that no one else does.

Given the value of the nonprofit arts and culture sector to the state, how would you support the eventual restoration of funding for the Arizona Commission on the Arts to pre-recession levels?

- Continued, one-time allocation of interest from the Rainy Day Fund.
- Return to a General Fund appropriation which is built into the budget base.
- Another dedicated funding stream. If so, what?: In my first years budget we appropriated 1.5 this year 2 million. I do not know what the previous levels are. I do know that each year I have served I have been chosen as one of the "Arts Champions".

To ensure all K-12 students have access to standards-based arts education and the benefits it can have on their academic performance and the overall learning environment, how would you encourage more attention and resources for arts education?

- Credit in the A-F school report card for student participation and achievement in standards-based arts education.
- Establishment of a Fine Arts Seal -- similar to the Civics Literacy Seal -- to be affixed to the diplomas and noted in the transcripts of graduating students with advanced achievement in high school Fine Arts.
- Other ideas?: I think our shrinking band Programs in Rural AZ - are a direct reflection of shrinking populations is recognizing how arts affect our culture. I would like to see a program help band in Rural Schools. The audited reporting I am afraid would either be an added cost or unfunded mandate.

Please discuss what impact you believe arts and culture has on your local community, e.g. individual artists, nonprofit performing arts, museums of various kinds, zoos or botanical gardens.

In Globe we have the Center for the Arts. It provides our community with that needed display of not only art and paintings but the child and adult acting roles and programs it puts on for our community is remarkable.

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 by your children, etc.

In my first year as a rural legislator, We purchased tickets at our own costs and brought them out to see "Beauty and the Beast" production. This gave them a first hand knowledge of not only what we are doing in our community but how important it is.



Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 8

Linda Gross
Arizona House of Representatives
Legislative District 8
Party: Democrat

Contact Information
175 E. Cedar St.
Globe, AZ 85501
(928) 701-3320
linda@yeswecanarizona.com

Please rank each of the issues identified below according to how critical they are to building Arizona's future, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Important, 2 - Not Very Important, 3 - Somewhat Important, 4 - Very Important, 5 - Extremely Important

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

5 - Extremely Important

Increased funding for K-12 schools.

5 - Extremely Important

Providing diverse opportunities for university and postsecondary education.

5 - Extremely Important

Protecting and stewarding Arizona's natural resources, e.g. air quality, water.

5 - Extremely Important

Preserving and promoting Arizona's unique cultural heritage and resources.

5 - Extremely Important

Leveraging Arizona arts as a means of community and economic development, attracting businesses and enriching education.

5 - Extremely Important

Please rank how effective the non-profit arts and culture sector is at supporting the following community priorities, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Effective, 2 - Not Very Effective, 3 - Somewhat Effective, 4 - Very Effective, 5 - Extremely Effective

Supporting local community development, e.g. downtown revitalization, neighborhood redevelopment.	5 - Extremely Effective
Providing a well-rounded education for our K-12 students.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting local business and attracting and retaining new businesses.	5 - Extremely Effective
Encouraging tourism.	5 - Extremely Effective
Making Arizona a place citizens want to live and raise their families.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting community health by directing programs and services to groups such as veterans, seniors, young people, and the cognitively and physically challenged.	5 - Extremely Effective

Given the value of the nonprofit arts and culture sector to the state, how would you support the eventual restoration of funding for the Arizona Commission on the Arts to pre-recession levels?

■ Another dedicated funding stream. If so, what?: It seems, as important as these are to a vision of Arizona which I hold dear, that I would hope we could find a dedicated funding stream in the future. I'd want to have discussions with sitting legislators and stakeholders to find out just what is needed and what are the possible sources for funding before submitting my position on this. But yes, this collection of arts, tourism, community-building and cultural issues are all things vital to Az.

To ensure all K-12 students have access to standards-based arts education and the benefits it can have on their academic performance and the overall learning environment, how would you encourage more attention and resources for arts education?

- Support audited reporting about arts education course offerings and student enrollment in any existing school "report card" or certificates of assurance required by state law.
- Establishment of a Fine Arts Seal -- similar to the Civics Literacy Seal -- to be affixed to the diplomas and noted in the transcripts of graduating students with advanced achievement in high school Fine Arts.

Please discuss what impact you believe arts and culture has on your local community, e.g. individual artists, nonprofit performing arts, museums of various kinds, zoos or botanical gardens.

Our local youth theater program in Globe is one of the best in the state I believe. It takes children and gives them confidence and communication skills which translates into all areas of their life and vision of success.

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 by your children, etc.

I served on the board of United Fund of Globe-Miami for 4 years, As a publisher, I worked with the IDA to develop an outdoor recreation guide for Southern Az, and produced multiple projects on behalf of tourism in our region over a decade.



Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 8

Thomas "T.J." Shope
Arizona House of Representatives
Legislative District 8
Party: Republican

Contact Information
 P.O. Box 1230
 Coolidge, Arizona 85128
 (520) 251-5636
 tj@tjshope.com

Please rank each of the issues identified below according to how critical they are to building Arizona's future, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Important, 2 - Not Very Important, 3 - Somewhat Important, 4 - Very Important, 5 - Extremely Important

Stimulating Arizona's economy and creating more good quality jobs.	5 - Extremely Important
Increased funding for K-12 schools.	4 - Very Important
Providing diverse opportunities for university and postsecondary education.	4 - Very Important
Protecting and stewarding Arizona's natural resources, e.g. air quality, water.	5 - Extremely Important
Preserving and promoting Arizona's unique cultural heritage and resources.	5 - Extremely Important
Leveraging Arizona arts as a means of community and economic development, attracting businesses and enriching education.	5 - Extremely Important

Please rank how effective the non-profit arts and culture sector is at supporting the following community priorities, by choosing a number from 1 to 5, as follows: 1 - Not At All Effective, 2 - Not Very Effective, 3 - Somewhat Effective, 4 - Very Effective, 5 - Extremely Effective

Supporting local community development, e.g. downtown revitalization, neighborhood redevelopment.	5 - Extremely Effective
Providing a well-rounded education for our K-12 students.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting local business and attracting and retaining new businesses.	5 - Extremely Effective
Encouraging tourism.	5 - Extremely Effective
Making Arizona a place citizens want to live and raise their families.	5 - Extremely Effective
Supporting community health by directing programs and services to groups such as veterans, seniors, young people, and the cognitively and physically challenged.	5 - Extremely Effective

Given the value of the nonprofit arts and culture sector to the state, how would you support the eventual restoration of funding for the Arizona Commission on the Arts to pre-recession levels?

- Continued, one-time allocation of interest from the Rainy Day Fund.
- Annual percentage of the Rainy Day Fund set in statute.
- Return to a General Fund appropriation which is built into the budget base.
- Another dedicated funding stream. If so, what?: I'm open to any ideas on this. I believe you know it's something that I've worked on for my entire time down there. I look forward to a day where we can do more than we are doing now and will continue to fight to do so.

To ensure all K-12 students have access to standards-based arts education and the benefits it can have on their academic performance and the overall learning environment, how would you encourage more attention and resources for arts education?

🎨 Establishment of a Fine Arts Seal -- similar to the Civics Literacy Seal -- to be affixed to the diplomas and noted in the transcripts of graduating students with advanced achievement in high school Fine Arts.

Please discuss what impact you believe arts and culture has on your local community, e.g. individual artists, nonprofit performing arts, museums of various kinds, zoos or botanical gardens.

In my local community of Coolidge, we have a relatively recent burgeoning arts scene with the creation of the Artisan Village there as well as attracting a skilled drama teacher at Coolidge High School. Both are things I have been involved in as a Governing Board Member at Coolidge Unified School District.

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 by your children, etc.

Both things mentioned above are things I have been involved in as a Governing Board Member at Coolidge Unified School District. I have also attended several events in both Coolidge and Casa Grande geared towards the arts.