



# Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 22

**David Livingston**  
**Arizona Senate**  
**Legislative District 22**  
**Party: Republican**

**Contact Information**  
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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.

4 - Very Important

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

4 - Very 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.	4 - Very Effective
Providing a well-rounded education for our K-12 students.	4 - Very Effective
Supporting local business and attracting and retaining new businesses.	4 - Very Effective
Encouraging tourism.	4 - Very Effective
Making Arizona a place citizens want to live and raise their families.	4 - Very Effective
Supporting community health by directing programs and services to groups such as veterans, seniors, young people, and the cognitively and physically challenged.	4 - Very 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?

 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?

- ✎ 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.

No Response Provided

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.

No Response Provided



# Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 22

**Teri Sarmiento**  
**Arizona House**  
**Legislative District 22**  
**Party: Democrat**

## Contact Information

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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

Comments: Two of my top priorities are improving public education and increasing economic opportunities in Arizona. Creating a robust arts community is an important part of meeting these goals.

First, as a mother of two boys, I believe that every Arizona child is entitled to an equitable public education. Sadly, the state legislature has cut education funding while providing tax loopholes to special interest groups. I would work to close those loopholes, fund education to the national average per student, provide increased funding for teachers/staff, and support arts education. Second, I will work to provide increased economic opportunities in the Northwest Valley, an area that was hard-hit by the great recession. Ninety-percent of the residents of Peoria and Surprise drive out of the community to work each day and my goal would be to create more jobs for them in their own communities. To that end, I will promote expansion of public transportation, promote increased technology jobs, and support a vibrant arts community in the Northwest Valley

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

Comments: One of my campaign volunteers shared this story. She is a Music Therapist, and worked with people who have Alzheimer's disease in a nursing home. After weeks of Music Therapy, one woman did not respond. She was nearly deaf, had dementia, and she did not speak or interact with anyone in the group. But one day, the woman turned the Music Therapist and said, "Are we in G Major?" The group was in G major! Everyone was shocked, including the Music Therapist and the nursing home staff. The arts have an intangible power--they are part of what makes us human. I believe the arts should be experienced by people of all ages and ability levels. If elected, I will support community health programs that benefit underserved populations, such as Guitars 4 Vets and Essential Theatre.

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.

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.

A few months ago, a friend of mine had the opportunity to play with the Symphony of the West Valley in a concert. The group performed Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony and Rimsky Korsakov's Capriccio Italian. The Valley Vista Performing Arts Center was sold-out, and the audience gave a standing ovation after the concert. The crowd was so large that local police even had to direct traffic! The quality of the performance was amazing, and it was wonderful to see how the orchestra has grown in the past decade.

But, even more than the orchestra's performance, I was impressed to see the audience response! Clearly, the West Valley appreciates the arts. And I support the work of organizations like the West Valley Arts Council and the Symphony of the West Valley. These groups and others help the arts to become more visible in West Phoenix.

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.

Music has been part of my life since I was a child. As a student of the Pendergast District in West Phoenix, I was thrilled to start learning the clarinet. I practiced for hours--playing countless excerpts, scales and Klose etudes. I played in local ensembles, such as the Phoenix Youth Symphony, in the All State ensembles, and even soloed with the Phoenix Symphony at age 16. I taught clarinet and saxophone to local students, and started my university career as music major.

After I graduated ASU with a degree in French Language and Literature, I moved to New York City, where I worked for the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts Educational Arm (the Institute). I worked to bring arts education to the curriculum in public schools in the five boroughs. I remember a group of kindergarten students sitting in front of a Chuck Close painting at the Metropolitan Museum of Art discussing it like college students. These kids were not from backgrounds of wealth or privilege; in fact many had never seen a painting in real-life. The Lincoln Center curriculum allowed educators to teach concepts as varied as mathematics, literacy, history, political science, etc., using arts as a vehicle through their line of inquiry model. In fact, educators from around the country come to New York to attend a week-long seminar each summer to bring the Lincoln Center Institute's philosophy of arts education back to their communities in other states.

When I returned to Arizona and started a family, I knew that the arts were still an important part of my life. Today, my sons Luke and Leo are both learning piano, and I hope to continue the family tradition!



## Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 22

Below are the Legislative District 22 candidates from whom Arizona Citizens for the Arts did not receive responses to our survey, along with their contact information. We encourage you to contact your candidates and ask them about their views on arts & culture in Arizona. A list of questions to ask candidates about the arts can be found on our VotesmART webpage under 'The Candidates'.

**Wendy Garcia**  
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Legislative District 22  
Party: Democrat

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**Valerie Harris**  
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