



Election 2018 Legislative Candidate Survey District 24

Lela Alston
Arizona Senate
Legislative District 24
Party: Democrat

Contact Information
69 W. Willetta Street, Apt. 1
Phoenix, AZ 85003
(602) 696-3780
LALSTON2@msn.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.

4 - Very 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.	4 – Very 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.
- 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.

I live in the Roosevelt Arts District and I support all opportunities for public art and for the community to engage with art, like in the examples listed above. Art fosters dialogue, self-expression, and creativity that should be celebrated as much as possible.

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'm a long supporter of the arts at the state legislature. I frequent our local museums and galleries, and annual shows like the Nasty Women Art Show supporting Planned Parenthood.



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Jennifer Longdon
Arizona House of Representatives
Legislative District 24
Party: Democrat

Contact Information
PO Box 7295
Phoenix, AZ 85001
(602) 738-1227
Info@JenLongdonForHouse.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

Comments: Each of these creates an environment in which one would want to live, raise a family and/or build a future.

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: The arts are a vehicle to stimulate and express positive community growth and interaction.

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.

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.
- Other ideas?: Creating internships and learning cooperatives that allow students to see the arts "in motion" in the community.

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.

I often think of this story attributed to Churchill - although it may be solely allegory, it is instructive. Churchill was asked to cut arts funding to support the war effort, he replied: "Then what are we fighting for?"

The arts, in all their forms, allow us to seek deeper truths within, form connections and express ourselves in ways profound and simple.

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 express myself through painting, drawing, sculpture, performing and writing. My child, my friends, family and colleagues are each involved in various mediums and I enjoy supporting them. I am a patron of the arts and attend performances of every stripe whenever possible. I am a donor to Detour Theater.



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Below are the Legislative District 24 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'.

Vicki Alger
Arizona Senate
Legislative District 24
Party: Republican

Contact Information
1350 N 77th St Unit 3011
Scottsdale, AZ 85257
(480) 939-5754
campaign@votevickialger.com

David Alger
Arizona House of Representatives
Legislative District 24
Party: Republican

Contact Information
(480) 750-9587

Christopher Karpurk
Arizona House of Representatives
Legislative District 24
Party: Libertarian

Contact Information
321 W. Palm Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85003