

Candidate's Name Mayor Jerry Sanders

**Candidate Questionnaire
San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition
December 2007**

1. Do you feel that arts and culture is important to the city of San Diego and its citizens? Yes No
Please comment I believe that arts and culture play an extremely important and positive role in our community. Through the arts, we as a community are able to enjoy a variety of shows, programs and festivals. Arts and culture, provides our community with a vehicle for expressing and promoting our City's unique background and prosperous future.

2. Are you aware of the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture and what it does? Yes No

3. Do you attend arts or cultural events? Yes No Last year over 3.9 million people attended events presented by 80 nonprofit arts and culture organizations funded by the Commission through competitive grants (including 21 music groups, 13 theatres, 10 dance companies, 12 museums, five arts education groups and 16 other cultural groups). What are the last three art or cultural events you attended? (Fundraisers and special events excluded)

Three events I recently attended were the opera, Mary, Queen of Scots; the opening of the Dead Sea Scrolls and I attended the Mingei Museum's 29th Anniversary celebration.

4. Are you aware of the source of funding for the Commission? Yes No Five years ago the City of San Diego, through its Commission for Arts and Culture, invested one cent of the ten and a half cents of Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) in arts and culture. Will you support restoring and dedicating the City's allocation of one cent of TOT to arts and culture? Yes No

We are trying to regain the ability to provide the one cent allocation, but at this time our financial constraints are preventing us from doing that.

5. Do you consider San Diego a cultural destination? Yes No According to a regional study, San Diego attracts 2.7 million out-of-town travelers annually who make their travel decisions primarily based on the city's broad variety of cultural attractions (organizations with budgets ranging from \$29,000 to \$18 million). Arts and culture are vital to this community and the local economy. What would you do to promote San Diego as a cultural destination?

I would continue to promote San Diego as a cultural destination through attending and supporting events that showcase the regions assets and history. I think it is extremely important to keep promoting all that San Diego has to offer.

Candidate's Name Mayor Jerry Sanders

6. Did you participate in visual or performing arts classes in school? Yes ___ No X Did/do your children? Yes ___ No ___ Unfortunately, most public schools don't have the resources to provide arts education for our young people. What do you see as the role of the arts and cultural community in addressing this issue?

We need to promote lifelong learning and enjoyment of the Arts. This means we need to provide access to classes and other programs that will allow are children the opportunity to experience the Arts first hand.

7. Do you agree that Balboa Park is an important cultural center for the city? Yes X No ___ In 2015, San Diego will be celebrating the Centennial of Balboa Park. This will be an opportunity to put San Diego in the national spotlight and on the world map. What is your vision of the importance of this event?

___ Ninety years ago, San Diego put itself on the worldwide map with the opening of Balboa Park. As San Diego leaders start planning now, they can bring Balboa Park back to its full glory and create a world class Centennial Celebration in 2015. To further this goal, I have fully supported a study by three San Diego Foundations to obtain a factual basis upon which the future health and viability of Balboa Park will be based. I have also stepped up long over due deferred maintenance for funding infrastructure improvements to the San Diego Museum of Man and San Diego Museum of Art. And, I have allocated \$150,000 in Special Promotional Funds to kick off the planning for the Balboa Park Centennial Celebration.

8. Have you been involved in efforts to rebuild and sustain museums and cultural institutions the city? Yes X No ___ San Diego is home to a number of very important cultural facilities. How do you plan to protect and sustain the museums and cultural institutions in Balboa Park, the NTC Promenade, Downtown and in our neighborhoods?

___ I will continue to put the necessary funding into our museums and cultural institutions. I have made it a priority and will continue to make it a priority to fund these institutions so that all San Diegans can visit and enjoy them for the next 100 years.

9. Are you aware of the City's Public Art Master Plan and what it does? Yes X No ___ Many of the world's great cities are renowned for their public art. San Diego's public art includes a range of works from early 20th century to contemporary. Name three pieces of public art that you like in the City of San Diego.

___ Three of my favorite pieces of public art in San Diego include "Crab Carillon" by Ramon de Salvo; Mission Valley Library's fully integrated arts display by Joyce Cutler Shaw and "Coming Together" by Niki de Saint Thalle.

10. Do you consider yourself a supporter of arts and culture both personally and publicly?

Yes X No ___

Have you met officials of the arts and cultural organizations located in the district(s) served by the elective office for which you are running? Yes X No ___

Which organizations do you or members of your family support? (As an audience member, volunteer, donor, subscriber and/or patron, staff member, board member)

___ I support, among others, the Museum of San Diego History; San Diego Museum of Art; Museum of Man; Museum of Contemporary Art; Mingei Museum; San Diego Natural History Museum; Museum of Photographic Arts; San Diego Opera; Civic Theatre; San Diego Symphony.

Email to: yasd@yasandiego.org

or

Mail hard copy to:

Young Audiences of San Diego

Attn: Hilliard Harper

4007 Camino del Rio S., Ste. 212

San Diego, CA 92108

San Diego Regional Arts & Culture Coalition: Mission and Purpose

- To lobby and advocate for appropriate funding levels for Arts and Culture to support new and ongoing projects throughout San Diego County
- To lobby, advocate and promote the awareness and importance of Arts and Culture throughout San Diego.
- To serve as an information resource entity to benefit all Arts and Culture institutions in San Diego County.