

**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 The measure of any civilized society is reflected by its arts and culture. Beyond providing for the basic needs of its citizens, the city bears a responsibility in ensuring that arts and culture are accessible and available for all.

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)

The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Natural History Museum, a live performance of Handel's Messiah, part 1, and performances by the Scripps Ranch Theater ("Play it Again Sam" and "The O'Conner Girls").

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

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?

Tourist-oriented organizations such as CONVIS and the Hotel-Motel Association must ensure that information about cultural attractions reaches our visitors. Also, it is very important to work closely with convention planners and destination managers in emphasizing this aspect of San Diego.

6. Did you participate in visual or performing arts classes in school? Yes No 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?

There should be an organized outreach to public and private schools at all levels. Volunteers, significantly reduced or free admissions to museums, grants and mentors should be used to expose young people to arts and cultural opportunities and encourage their early and continued participation in the arts. There should be a mentorship within the schools and between the schools. In particular, senior/high school students should help at the middle/junior high school level and the middle schoolers should have leadership roles with the elementary school students. The local public and private universities and trade schools should be involved at the high school level. It would be great if the City's Park and Recreation Department could facilitate arts participation with subsidized courses and field trips. Also, the current programs aimed toward students, such as those by the Opera and many other arts organizations, should be expanded as much as possible.

7. Do you agree that Balboa Park is an important cultural center for the city? Yes 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? Every effort should be made to create the equivalent of a World's Fair for this event. It is an event that should have worldwide attention. We should try to get Balboa Park on the UNESCO list of World Monuments, "The World Famous Balboa Park."

8. Have you been involved in efforts to rebuild and sustain museums and cultural institutions the city? Yes 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 have been active in the La Jolla Historical Society's effort to preserve the Black-Lumpkins House (aka UCSD Chancellor's house) over the last year and a half. Protecting our cultural resources is something that is important to me. I believe that we should not just protect and sustain, but actually grow our museums and institutions. Resources in our neighborhoods should be protected and enhanced by emphasizing adaptive reuse of historical structures.

9. Are you aware of the City's Public Art Master Plan and what it does? Yes 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.

The Laurel Street Bridge over SR-163, the ship's prow water fountain at the San Diego Community Concourse and the Martin Luther King Promenade.

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

La Jolla Historical Society, The La Jolla Athenaeum, U. S. Historical Society, The Smithsonian, National Geographic, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego Zoological Society

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or

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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.