

Brandon Cory Goldberg

What is your personal background and experience in the arts?	I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group.
What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?	Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts
What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?	4.60%
The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...	Over \$500 Million
The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.	54,000
Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?	Yes https://www.brandoncorygoldberg.com/issues
Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).	While I do support the idea of a dedicated arts district with all of these aspects, I also want to ensure that the arts permeate throughout Atlanta. The benefit of an arts district is that it can serve as a launching ground and hub. However, we don't want that to result in a decrease of artistic engagement elsewhere in Atlanta. We must work to provide a proper balance.
Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists	This absolutely needs to be a priority. Like any other industry, we must ensure the arts are a part of our COVID-19 recovery. Not only are the arts an important part of our quality of life, the very fact that they are businesses with employees justify this prioritization. I will work with organizations from across the arts

Brandon Cory Goldberg

<p>to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	<p>spectrum to provide the funding necessary to support an unequalled arts industry in Atlanta.</p>
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>We can make Atlanta a global center for the arts. From theaters and music venues to museums and murals, we need to invest in the arts in an unprecedented fashion. Artists from around the world will be drawn to the Atlanta scene, and the artists already among us should find the space, resources, and empowerment to share their gifts. We also need to work to make sure the arts are accessible to everyone in Atlanta and that students can study the arts without worry that their art programs might ever be cut. The arts feed the soul, and during the good times and the bad, our lives are enriched and made all the better for this expression of culture and community.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>Thank you for providing this opportunity to share information about my campaign. Please feel free to contact me at brandon@brandoncorygoldberg.com or 404-981-5778</p>

Antonio Brown

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group., I am the partner of an artist (theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film, etc.), I partnered with the Art Institutes to create curriculum nationwide.</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
<p>What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?</p>	<p>4.60%</p>
<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$250 Million</p>
<p>The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.</p>	<p>44,000</p>
<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>I will expand and continue to support the Office of Cultural Affairs as a City resources to the art community and would consider auctioning off a portion of the 750 acres of city owned land to the art community.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act</p>	<p>Arts are an important if not required factor in life and the socio-economic health of the City. A portion of ARPA would certainly be an option.</p>

Antonio Brown

<p>(ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>To becoming an international city that we all speak of full of culture, arts and diversity that you mention we must first bridge the divide with the Governor's Office and State House. As Councilman I have developed a good relationship with the Governor and many State Representatives and will continue as Mayor.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>Art in whatever format it may manifests itself brings us together as a People and should not be discarded or left uncultivated.</p>

Doug Shipman

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I have been an arts administrator</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
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<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$700 Million</p>
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<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>I strongly support an arts district that is a mix of profit and not for profit venues and spaces. I believe we should invest COVID relief dollars to initially fund a district and we should engage developer incentives and private/philanthropic sector support to sustain the district long term including marketing and technical support. Even the small efforts in Midtown recently to provide artists storefront spaces show the extensive benefits to the arts sector, artists and the broader community in having physical destinations to engage with arts.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and</p>	<p>I support this strongly.</p>

Doug Shipman

<p>restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>Arts needs to be in the top three things that Atlanta is "known" for and we should present arts as one of those priority pillars (alongside our African American cultural legacy and our "regional capitol" status including sports and commerce). We should see arts promotions at the airport and throughout our city, we should continue to more prominently invest in public art in high traffic areas, we should have a district (or two) where residents and visitors can touch and engage with artists and works, and our arts community should reflect more fully the diversity of our population including a much larger Black arts/artist focus as well as broader artists voices. I also believe organizations like Flux Projects have shown us that major community events can be significant and successful and we should be engaging the entire community to define the types of signature events we want to represent Atlanta.</p> <p>We also need more dedicated funding sources both public and private to allow organizations to scale and to increase support for individual artists. I envision an Atlanta with more midsize arts organizations, many founded/let by BIPOC individuals, and a place where artists can stay in Atlanta throughout their careers and not feel compelled to leave at some point in order to "grow" their careers.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>I've worked for many years in both leadership roles (Founding CEO National Center for Civil and Human Rights and CEO of the Woodruff Arts Center) and supporting roles (Board member Out of Hand Theatre, Advisory Board Dad's Garage) to build and support our arts community. I will bring my extensive experience and commitment to the role of City Council President.</p>

Kasim Reed

What is your personal background and experience in the arts?	I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I am the parent of an artist (youth to adult).
What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?	Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts
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Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).	Atlanta is vibrant because of its arts community. I absolutely support the creation of an arts district and will continue to support additional policies to fund and support arts organizations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Help creative workers find economic opportunities in partnership with the business community -Leverage my Affordable Housing Plan to focus on the artists and creative communities -Create additional opportunities for the City to hire artists, building on the successes of my previous Administration with the creation of Atlanta City Studio that hired artists to work with communities -Add senior-level management in City Hall to work with the Arts + Culture community to reduce red tape and systemic inefficiencies which prevent local arts organizations and people from getting vital resources
Please share your thoughts on providing	COVID has disproportionately impacted arts and culture organizations. My Administration will focus on loss of income

Kasim Reed

<p>relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	<p>and closed facilities for arts/culture organizations. I will leverage my relationships with the Biden-Harris Administration for federal funding to provide income support, money for facility upgrades, infrastructure improvements that incorporate and benefit the arts community. I will adjust the Invest Atlanta policies so that IA can fund non-profit arts + culture organizations that create new jobs.</p>
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>Atlanta has one of the most vibrant creative economies in the country. From our music industry to our film+television to our creative tech companies to our non-profits arts and culture — the entire sector should be recognized and applauded as vital to our economy and our identity.</p> <p>During my previous two terms, I increased funding across the board. I increased support for small arts organizations and individual artists through increased funding for the Office of Cultural Affairs' contracts for arts services. We also created the Power2Give campaign to further support smaller non profits. We supported the big arts organizations who work across the City with thousands of APS students. I made a \$10 million investment in public art maintenance and acquisition through RENEW Atlanta — an important down payment on public art in our city. And I created the Office of Film+Television to support the growing film and television industries.</p> <p>Perhaps more importantly, I understood then - and understand now - that the arts in Atlanta are chronically underfunded. I attempted to pass a permanent sales tax to begin to address that issue. I am committed to creating permanent and substantive revenue to fund public art and artists, and to support the creative ecosystem of our city. I will take several concrete steps to make that happen: I will bring on leadership who can collaborate with business, arts and culture, and philanthropy. I will work internally across City agencies and departments to leverage our creative resources in work the City does outside the cultural sector. I will create an empowered task force comprised of arts and culture and creative industry leaders to partner with and advise the City as we embark on comprehensive planning and adoptions of best practices in our cultural work. I hope groups like Art Work ATL and Art Vote ATL will be a part of these efforts.</p> <p>Arts equity is an enormous part of the equation. We are in the midst of citywide conversations for all major Atlanta civic and</p>

Kasim Reed

	<p>philanthropic efforts. The City of Atlanta will be part of the conversation and the solution. From who is funded, to where arts exist, to how arts organizations grow — I am committed to the full ecosystem of our City and open to good ideas on how to support our artists, arts organizations, neighborhoods, and the entirety of the creative community.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	

Jason Dozier

What is your personal background and experience in the arts?	I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am an art admirer but don't regularly attend.
What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?	Dance, Music, Theatre, Visual Arts
What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?	4.60%
The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...	Over \$250 Million
The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.	44,000
Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?	Yes Listed under "Public Arts": http://votedozier.com/issues/
Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).	I support this proposal. The City of Atlanta owns 877 acres of land across 490 parcels that could be turned into affordable housing, rehearsal space, or presentation space, and that shouldn't be a heavy lift because it involves property that's already publicly-owned. Consolidating these spaces together creates agglomeration economies which allow for much freer exchange of ideas, innovations, and opportunities. I also support partnering with developers to organize artist-in-residence programs which would offer free- or reduced-cost housing for artists to live and work in some of our most historic and culturally-vibrant corridors.
Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and	I absolutely support this. The pandemic put the fragility of Atlanta's economy on full display, and our arts community was one of the hardest hit in the city. I'm thankful that arts programs and galleries across America were able to reopen their doors because of relief provided by local governments and state legislatures, and Atlanta should continue this work beyond what's been allotted through ARPA funding.

<p>restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	<p>Atlanta must also work to ensure that COVID relief is provided with considerations of equity and inclusiveness. In the last three decades, only 9% of the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta's Arts Fund has gone to black-led arts organizations, and very few of these organizations received COVID relief money in 2020. Atlanta must do better and must work harder to ensure these efforts are inclusive and work to reduce this harm.</p>
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>My vision is for Atlanta to be a city that no longer operates in silos, and whose various agencies, institutions, and nonprofit organizations work together so that we're better positioned to deliver successful outcomes for more people.</p> <p>As an example, the film and television industry has been booming in Atlanta for several years now, and the City of Atlanta's Office of Film and Entertainment processes hundreds of permits each year. We should be partnering with Atlanta Public Schools to provide pathways for graduates to enter into the industry through apprenticeship and other vocational opportunities. Apprenticeships are an underutilized form of post-secondary education, and we should work to make them more viable and accessible in the eyes of our young people. Apprenticeships in the arts and entertainment industry would allow students to be trained in a valuable trade while allowing them to earn a living at the same time. They could build entry-level experience while earning reasonable wages and come out the other side certified and ready to enter high-demand, well-paying Union jobs.</p> <p>Separately, reopening and resourcing our recreation centers could present our youth with vocational, recreational, and learning opportunities that promote personal growth and social development by exposing them to the arts. Music Education Group, a non-profit that teaches students life-skills and career development through music, film, and digital media had a fully-operational recording studio operating inside Dunbar Recreation Center in Mechanicsville, but kids haven't had access to those facilities in nearly two years. We can fix these deficiencies.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>Out of a sincere love for this community, I ran for this exact seat in 2017. As a first time candidate, I took a then-six-term incumbent into a runoff for the first time in her career. In fact, I was endorsed by GABWA during that election. In the end, I lost by just 240 votes, one of the tightest margins of any race in that year's municipal elections. Four years later, I'm back to finish</p>

what I started, and I believe our voters are ready to embrace the change that our district deserves.

The issues I'm fighting to solve are based on my lived experience organizing in marginalized spaces. We're losing too many of our citizens to senseless street violence. Many of them were young, black men and children who were ignored by our city's elected officials and who through no fault of their own felt helpless and hopeless in their own neighborhoods.

Others are injured or dying because poor road design makes it extremely difficult and unsafe for people to walk or bike to destinations. These were men and women who were just living their lives, just trying to cross the street to a bus stop or ride a bike to the corner store or go to school on roadways that are designed for cars and not people. Experiences I'm far too familiar with having been a transit commuter myself for years. And disproportionately, the victims of these basic infrastructure discrepancies are black, underserved, and reside in southwest Atlanta communities without sidewalks, crosswalks or street lights.

At the end of the day, families who built Atlanta--who built West End and Mozley Park and Oakland City and Mechanicsville--are getting displaced and can no longer afford to stay in this city to reap the benefits that come from years of investing in our culture and our history.

We have to remedy that, and it's why I'm running. We owe our communities so much more than what they've been provided.

Todd Gray

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group.</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
<p>What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?</p>	<p>4.60%</p>
<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$700 Million</p>
<p>The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.</p>	<p>34,000</p>
<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>I am in support of creating a city supported arts district. An arts district will create the safe space Atlanta needs for artists to know they are physically and financially supported from leadership and investors in and around Atlanta. This could provide so much more dedicated studio, rehearsal, and performance space and housing for local arts and artists. If we can provide multi million dollar tax breaks at the State level I think we can work to support our artists at home as well. I will partner to seek creative arts opportunities within the city's portfolio of assets. I will commit through my office to develop a Arts Czar to assist local artists to streamline and ease their engagement with city hall.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists</p>	<p>ARPA should be equally divided to the private and public, including the Arts, sectors. We should also allocate funding across the entire city. It is paramount we fully support the large organizations, however smaller local organizations are also in need of funding. We can apply a needs based model to ensure that funding is distributed to the artists and arts equitably.</p>

Todd Gray

<p>to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>My vision for Arts Atlanta is to ensure that we are protecting the culture, through funding and policies, that created the Arts industry in Atlanta while including Artists that call Atlanta home. Through ordinances I will protect public arts works and do everything in my capacity to create more. It is wonderful that we have become an arts destination, but we need to make sure that we never lose what makes us Atlanta. I will also work to assure the arts reflect the cultural representation of our diverse citizenship.</p> <p>Questions and answers will be posted publicly. Is there any other information you would like voters to know? I am an advocate for the Arts. If elected, I vow to work with artists in and from Atlanta, assist in funding the arts, and create opportunities for those who are interested in growing in the Arts space.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>I am an advocate for the Arts. If elected, I vow to work with artists in and from Atlanta, assist in funding the arts, and create opportunities for those who are interested in growing in the Arts space.</p>

Andre Dickens

What is your personal background and experience in the arts?	I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group.
What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?	Dance, Music, Theatre, Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts
What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?	4.60%
The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...	Over \$700 Million
The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.	24,000
Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?	Yes https://andreforatlanta.com/arts-culture/
Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).	I believe that we need an arts district in the city of Atlanta and I plan to create and appoint a commission to seek out the best place or places to develop creator districts with spaces available specifically for creators (artist lofts, creator workspaces, studio spaces, etc.. I hope that we can develop a diverse group of artists an art and that this district would be designed to uplift the underserved and build wealth on a local level. This commission would need to determine and develop strategies to establish more affordable housing and artist studio options through art focused land trusts, live/work studio spaces, and other mixed-income developments. Lastly, this commission should evaluate strategies implemented in other cities to learn best practices for long-term, dedicated revenue streams to support arts development through various means including private development.
Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the	Artists were hit hard during COVID and relief funds from ARPA should be used for direct support to those who have lost significant income. We must develop strategies to directly

Andre Dickens

<p>American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	<p>impact and restore economic vitality to those who lost funds during COVID. This can potentially be used to begin to develop the arts district and set the foundations for a long-term arts strategy.</p>
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>Arts are an integral part of a thriving, diverse community, and our city needs to develop and support the artists of Atlanta. Atlanta children deserve the benefits that arts bring which are safety, a whole education, appreciation, empathy, and a future full of opportunities. We want to reinvigorate the creative economy after the devastating impacts of COVID on the arts community. Arts are vital to our humanity, culture, health, and community, so as Mayor, I will use the resources of the City to advocate for the arts on behalf of the citizens, visitors, and artists of Atlanta.</p> <p>My goals as Mayor include:</p> <p>Make the arts accessible to everyone. Support individual artists. Ensure equity in art funding and support. Reinvigorate the creative economy after impacts of COVID. Further cultivate the Atlanta arts community for future generations.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>Some of my involvement in the arts:</p> <p>Hammonds House membership Visit Zucot Gallery frequently AREA High Museum membership Contributed to Ashley Bella Mural in District 12 Participated in Castleberry Arts Stroll Presenter at the Arts Beats and Lyrics Attended One Music Fest Academy Lofts at Adair School with the Creatives Project Have been taking piano lessons</p>

Matt Westmoreland

What is your personal background and experience in the arts?	I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group.
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The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.	24,000
Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?	In progress
Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).	Would absolutely support the creation of an arts district that would include these aspects. Would love to talk more about how I can help make this a reality.
Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists	Was proud that we were able to set aside \$20 million in ARP funding to support small businesses and nonprofit organizations, including artists and arts groups.

Matt Westmoreland

<p>to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>My vision for the arts in Atlanta is... the Jazz Fest in Piedmont Park; a local artists festival in Westside Park; a growingly diverse Woodruff Arts Center; rock, rap, country, and classical concerts at Centennial Park; pop-up visual art galleries; murals on South Downtown buildings or along Cleveland Avenue; ELEVATE off Campbellton Road; thriving arts and music programs in Atlanta Public Schools; a local recurring funding stream to support all these and more.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>Please don't ever hesitate to reach out. My email is matt@mattwestmoreland.com and my cell is 404.408.0980</p>

Keisha Sean Waites

What is your personal background and experience in the arts?	I love the arts but consume it mostly in popular forms such as movies, online or as streaming experiences.
What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?	Music, Theatre, Film (including film festivals)
What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?	3.60%
The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...	Over \$700 Million
The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.	24,000
Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?	In progress
Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).	I fully support providing the use of un-used and under-utilized city owned buildings and property to host local artists and art organizations at an affordable cost. This initiative would provide immediate relief and assistance to those who can no longer afford the exorbitant cost of commercial rent. Secondly, the space could be used to host local artists and hold performance venues to showcase local home grown talent. This provision would also provide a vehicle to help the arts community re-coop some of the lost funding opportunities related to COVID closings and cancellations by hosting smaller local performances and venues throughout the city. These venues have the capacity to generate admission ticket fee's and parking fee's to create consistent funding streams.
Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists	Given the impact of COVID-19, I fully support creating Relief funding generated from a special use tax to assist and provide relief to arts organizations and local artists. The funds would come from a \$1 dollar tax on all tickets sold and generated from professional recreational venues and festivals hosted in the City of Atlanta. I.e. Hawks, Falcon, Braves, United Soccer League, etc.

Keisha Sean Waites

<p>to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>Currently city hall and Hartsfield-Jackson Airport does a great job of showcasing local artist and talent. However, I would like to expand access to local artist and home grown talent by allowing them to exhibit and showcase their talent at local libraries, schools, parks and at city owned buildings and property.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>A native of Atlanta, growing up in a single-parent home two causes have always been close to my heart: serving disadvantaged youth and communities impacted by poverty. For this reason, I devote much of my time and resources to eradicating poverty and providing culturally enriching opportunities to disadvantaged at-risk youth. During my tenure in the Georgia Legislature, I took a special interest in working youth. For this reason, I made a special request to serve on the Juvenile Justice Committee. In partnership, with the arts community, I secured a community grant from the Home Depot Foundation to provide metro Atlanta socio-economically disadvantaged youth and families in-kind sponsorships to visit the following venues: Georgia Aquarium, Lake Lanier Islands, Zoo Atlanta, High Museum of Art, Browns Mill Golf Course and Fern Bank Museum. Thanks to the kindness and philanthropic generosity of the above sponsors over five hundred students were provided tickets at no cost to the students, parents, or taxpayers.</p>

Jacki Labat

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group.</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
<p>What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?</p>	<p>4.60%</p>
<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$700 Million</p>
<p>The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.</p>	<p>54,000</p>
<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>Creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta is essential to our post pandemic recovery plan. While the arts have often taken a back seat to other budgetary planning items, this is an opportunity to level-set the funding in light of the impact that the arts will have on our mental and emotional health as we overcome the challenges we face as a society.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and</p>	<p>I believe that we should take a balanced look at the funds we receive from the American Relief Funds Act and allocate those resources in a fair, balanced manner to ensure all sectors of the city (including the arts) are able to rebound.</p>

Jacki Labat

<p>restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>I believe Atlanta should be a leader in this space. Prior to the pandemic we were soaring with respect to film and there is no reason why we should not continue to do so in a creative, thoughtful and proactive fashion. The people included in this effort are all of those who are passionate about Atlanta being a leader and a shining example when it comes to the arts.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>I believe that we are all impacted by the art that surrounds us on a daily basis - music, painting, figures, murals, statues and more. It's up to us to ensure that the impact on those in Atlanta is positive, meaningful and inspirational. Thank you for this opportunity to share!</p>

Jodi Merriday

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I have an arts practice (theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film, etc.), I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group., I am the parent of an artist (youth to adult).</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
<p>What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?</p>	<p>4.60%</p>
<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$700 Million</p>
<p>The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.</p>	<p>24,000</p>
<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>Yes My vision for Atlanta is that we put people first in safe neighborhoods, schools, and streets with robust business expansion, jobs, interconnected transit, and a vibrant arts and entertainment culture.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>I wholeheartedly support the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta to provide affordable studios, rehearsal spaces, housing, and presentation spaces (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.). I believe that the city should partner with philanthropy and the private sector to fund and actualize this vision.</p>

Jodi Merriday

<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	<p>It is critical that relief funds are provided from the ARF Act to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy. Moreover, I will champion doubling budget appropriations in Departments that support this effort including the Office of Cultural Affairs and The Office of Film and Entertainment. I truly believe that the City of Atlanta in partnership with philanthropy and the private sector should have a 20 million dollar budgetary allowance. Atlanta's brand nationally and globally has been amplified by influential musicians, artists, producers, writers and creative industry professionals. We owe them a great debt that we must pay forward. Their recovery, rebuilding, and restoration will be at the heart of how the soul of our city moves forward.</p>
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>Our sister cities have evidenced to Atlanta how vital an Arts District and vibrant culture can be. My vision for the arts starts with embedding arts programming in Atlanta Public Schools and the extracurricular activities provided in @Promise and Parks and Recreation Centers throughout the City. Next, I believe the Colleges and Universities can continue the cultivation and development of creatives and technicians to feed the emerging economy. Creative students and technicians should be provided with opportunities to present their works, be mentored, and funded.</p> <p>I further envision that facilities owned by the City of Atlanta would be accessible as a conduit for presenting and cultivating bodies of work. I am particularly passionate about equity. All communities should have access, be represented, and feel a sense of belonging.</p> <p>Lastly, our cultural calendar should be the toast of the South with festivals, exhibitions, releases, performances, ceremonies, etc. This calendar should be partnered with our conventions and visitors bureau to energize Atlantans, illuminate our city, and attract revenue. Moreover, associated costs should be varied to enable citywide participation and patronage (i.e. exclusive, scales pricing, subsidized, and FREE).</p> <p>My vision feels like a diverse and widely varied, inclusive creative culture that bustles, ignites, and elevates our city.</p>

Jodi Merriday

Is there any other information you would like voters to know?

I identify my artistic canvas as jazz, cultural canvas as diplomacy and aspire to create bodies of work and dialogue that provoke consciousness, critical thought and social cohesion. My most notable skills include the capacity to encapsulate performance art as a tool to bridge understanding, unpack difference, increase cultural competency and facilitate dialogue. I have over 25 years of experience working in higher education.

During my 7-year tenure as a Lecturer at Spelman College in the Departments of Music, Sociology and African Diaspora, I taught Africans in the Diaspora and World, American Popular Music, African-American Film, Intro to Sociology, Social Problems, Hip Hop HERStory and Dialogue across Difference. I was also an Adjunct Lecturer at Georgia State University where I taught African Diaspora), Clark Atlanta University where I taught USA Africa World and African/ African-American Music, The Art Institute of Philadelphia where I taught Intro to Sociology, and Community College of Philadelphia where I taught Intro to Sociology and Culture and Thinking).

My first independently released cd, "Sundance" was asserted by jazz and poetry enthusiasts to be, "one of the most innovative projects of the new millennium". Recent notable performances include: The Atlanta Jazz Festival's 40 Days of Jazz, Northlake College's commemoration of African-American and Women's History Month, Southern Illinois University's "Black Women in American History and Culture;" and The National Black Arts Festival's "Interpretations: Black Visual Art Past, Present and Future. I have received awards and distinctions for my creative body of work and aspire to make artistic and academic contributions until my days end.

I am keenly aware of the power of creative industries and the importance of artist to the tapestry of humanity. I will be an ally, advocate, and passionate champion of Atlanta's Arts Districts, creative industries, and culture. Lights - camera - action, ... let's go!

Jereme Sharpe

What is your personal background and experience in the arts?	I have an arts practice (theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film, etc.), I am the partner of an artist (theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film, etc.)
What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?	Visual Arts
What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?	1.60%
The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...	Over \$500 Million
The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.	34,000
Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?	Yes https://www.sharpe.vote/arts-culture-plan
Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).	Yes! Yes! Yes! I actually have that outlined in my Arts and Culture Plan/Platform.
Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and	I believe providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover is needed. Moreover, we need a permanent dedicated source that is providing ongoing funding for the Arts because of the complexity of the industry.

Jereme Sharpe

<p>restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>Atlanta is truly for everyone. We have enough room for a world class airport, a world class arena, a world class arts and culture ecosystem, a world class technology network, and so much more. —What I love about Atlanta it her 242 unique Neighborhoods spread across 3 distinct areas of Buckhead, Southwest Atlanta, and Intown. There is that perfect something here in Atlanta for everyone.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>I'm focused on three things; Rebuilding our Housing System, Reconnecting our Transportation System, and Reinvesting in our Commerce System. Which means doing many things but some specifically —creating (affordable) housing of all types, expanding the streetcar to connect people to The Beltline, and providing small businesses with the resources needed to grow.</p>

Courtney English

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I play the trumpet, violin, and as a college student participated in a campus theater company.</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
<p>What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?</p>	<p>4.60%</p>
<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$500 Million</p>
<p>The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.</p>	<p>54,000</p>
<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>I believe that an arts district that list all of the amenities above would be good for artist, good for the economy, and good for the soul. In fact, as a world class city, having such a district is necessary to continue to visitors and inspire the next generation of Atlantans. To get there, we should leverage city owned land, offer incentives for projects that will create dedicate space for artists, and provide funding for to the creative community.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and</p>	<p>This a necessity. For the past year and a half, I have helped lead an eviction relief fund that has raised over \$11 million and served over 4,000 people--many of whom were a part of our artistic community. We have to provide funding to stabilize the market then ensure long-term sustainability.</p>

Courtney English

restore Atlanta's creative economy.	
What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)	I believe the arts/culture is Atlanta's biggest export. It's what attracts people to the city and what keeps them here once they visit. Our artistic community will continue to be a creative center that tells our stories, connects people across lines of division, celebrates our uniqueness, provokes thought, and feeds our souls. We must also ensure that everyone has access to the arts across our city. and that the inequities we see in almost all other areas of Atlanta do not plague the artistic community and its patrons.
Is there any other information you would like voters to know?	

Liliana Bakhtiari

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I am the partner of an artist (theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film, etc.), I have collaborated with artists on events and projects</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
<p>What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?</p>	<p>4.60%</p>
<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$700 Million</p>
<p>The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.</p>	<p>54,000</p>
<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>In progress We will be releasing a policy video on our social media platforms next week.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>This is a huge priority for me. So many of our art spaces have been closed down throughout the pandemic, and many continue to shut their doors due to skyrocketing real estate costs, which many of our small and midsize arts organizations cannot afford. With established arts districts throughout the city, we have the opportunity for creative placemaking that can support artists in all mediums, at all levels, and continue to develop our unique cultural voice as a city. While one central arts district is a huge priority, I would take it a step farther. I think we also need to incorporate arts districts into our neighborhood zoning and masterplans. These can be folded into existing neighborhood commercial districts or be proposed on currently unused land. These districts, large or small, must include affordable artist studios and affordable workforce housing, so that our artists can afford to live and work in the city, and we must have them in every part of the city, not just the most affluent/majority white neighborhoods. Not only will they serve as a hub for creativity</p>

Liliana Bakhtiari

	<p>and culture in our city, but they will be important economic drivers. The arts generate more economic activity than professional sports or any other major event. It is time that we start recognizing arts and culture for its enormous economic impact, and allocate appropriate space and funding within our city.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	<p>My partner and so many of my friends and chosen family are artists. Being a gig worker in Atlanta was already hard, and COVID made it 10 times harder. With our theatres shuttered, in person events cancelled, it has been a rough time for our artists, and a lot of the pandemic relief that was being offered did not apply to some of our small non-profits or individual artists. And this manifested in more ways than just loss of income, a lot of the artists I know have been pushed out of the city due to increased affordability issues and lack of relief funds, and many of our gallery spaces and creative hubs have had to close due to rising property costs and loss of business. As our next councilmember, I would advocate for the creation of new small business assistance programs targeted at cultural drivers like event venues, theatres, studios, and galleries so that we can keep these creative spaces open in our city. I think we also need to be sure that people feel safe returning to indoor live art events, which means pushing for vaccination and COVID safety measures to be fully met city wide. But, this is an intersectional issue, where it is not just about supporting our arts organizations and spaces but also about supporting the people who are responsible for the culture in our city. That means investment in quality of life staples like housing and transportation. We watched over these last few years as Mammal was forced to close, as Bakery was forced to relocate, as HiLo Press had to shut its doors, and as SFQP has fought to find their own space to steward. And these are just a few. The organizers in those spaces each became burnt out and struggled as a result of barely being able to live here and provide for themselves. As our next councilmember, I will push to continue the rental assistance programs the we began during the COVID pandemic, I will include artists as part of our essential workforce as we develop workforce housing, and I will make sure our transit projects are shovel ready for federal dollars so that our artists can afford to live in and get around the city.</p>
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic</p>	<p>I say it all the time, our arts and culture are the lifeblood of this city, it's what makes Atlanta, Atlanta and why we love living here. In District 5, I think about our diverse and vibrant music scene in East Atlanta Village, I think about the incredible public</p>

engine of the Southeast?
(What does it look like,
feel like, sound like? Who
are the people? There is
no wrong answer.)

art initiatives in each neighborhood that instill pride and share each neighborhoods unique character and history with those who visit, and I think about all of the small galleries and artist markets that I frequent each week. These things not only exemplify the diversity and character of district 5, but they draw visitors from all over, which means more economic investment in our local businesses. For every dollar that we invest in the arts, we see a minimum \$4 return. That is a huge number. I think District 5 is a great example of a part of Atlanta that really values its arts and culture, and it shows in how much we have grown in the last 4 years. For me, art intersects with everything. I have personally been involved in several art activism projects, including a voter engagement bus which we painted and drove around the state during the 2018 elections, and the Black Futures Matter project, which raised awareness and specific demands for action in defense of not just Black lives but Black Futures. I think the most important way to bolster our creative economy is by investing in the artists who live and work here directly. We have so many artists who live in Atlanta . What better way to improve their quality of life than to directly invest in their work and let it shine through right in their backyard. I believe that District 5 can lead by example. We have a lot of independent organizations in our district that are working neighborhood by neighborhood to provide arts programming and opportunities but they need more support to keep those programs going. Some of the pillars of my arts and culture policy plan for district 5 would include investment in our creative spaces as an integral part of our neighborhood commercial districts, so assisting cultural venues, galleries, and studio spaces dedicated tax credits and grants, this is especially important in our incredibly competitive real-estate market; I would dedicate a portion of my district budget to public art projects and community arts programming in each neighborhood both providing employment opportunities for local artists and investing in expression of our neighborhoods' unique and diverse cultures. And finally, I would work with our neighborhoods to establish plans for cultural districts as we create our neighborhood masterplans. These can be folded into existing neighborhood commercial districts or be proposed on currently unused land, but as we plan for our District's growth, we need to proactively plan for creative placemaking as well. Additionally, I would want to find solutions for some of the bureaucratic barriers that are currently in place for public art

	<p>permitting and access to funding so that more projects from more diverse artists can manifest in District 5.</p> <p>If we want to move forward and become a true arts city, we need to take a real look at how our arts and culture is funded and where that funding is going. Our city office of Arts and Cultural Affairs has particular programming that receives funding each year, like Elevate and Jazz Fest, and those initiatives tend to distribute money to the same circles of artists, and our larger arts institutions like the High Museum and Atlanta Ballet always receive funding. Additionally, large cultural events often bring in artists and curators from outside of Atlanta, rather than investing in local artists. We have an incredible pool of independent artists here, we have to start really investing in them and giving them the resources they need to thrive, especially given how much revenue our artists generate for our city. In order to appropriately allocate resources we need a City of Atlanta cultural plan. We haven't had one in 15 years. As our next councilmember, I would also push for the creation of a Policy Director for Arts position in the Office of Cultural affairs to lead the charge on building this plan and I would advocate for the creation of an Arts & Culture Advisory Board made up of cultural stakeholders from our music, film, dance, visual art, public art, theatre, and arts administration communities to begin the process of creating a Cultural Development plan. I say it all the time, we need to be talking TO the people who will be affected by policy, rather than about them. So we have to be sure we have artists and cultural leaders not only at the table but leading the way as we shape our cultural plan. Once we have an artist led plan, it will be up to city council to allocate funding in an equitable way, and in that capacity, I am committed to prioritizing BIPOC led, independent, and small non-profit arts organizations who are so often left out of the equation.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	<p>The last thing I want to share is my commitment to Atlanta's non-profits arts and cultural landscape, which so often suffers from chronic under-support. My partner Kris is an artist, and was involved with a local non-profit art organization here in Atlanta for 10 years. I come from the DIY arts and non-profit part of our creative community, plus many of my close friends are artists and/or non-profit organizers. I consistently hear from all of them that not only are they chronically underfunded, but what little government funding they do receive is often the first thing to be cut when our city and state leadership is looking to reduce its budgetary bloat. I think this is completely backwards. We see it time and time again, investment in local arts and culture is a</p>

huge economic driver, and I am not just talking about the big institutions. We are talking about an over \$600M industry in the City of Atlanta alone, imagine what would happen if we actually invested in it. As our next councilmember, I will advocate for increasing and diversifying our budget for Arts and Culture in the City of Atlanta, and I will work with our state partners to re-introduce legislation for a dedicated 1/10 penny sales tax that could be a game changing revenue stream for our city's cultural programming, and I will fight for the city to have more freedom over how to spend our hotel/motel tax which should arguably be going towards arts and culture instead of further investments into sports and entertainment, given that the arts still earns more than those industries. With these extra dollars, I would like to expand our city grant programs to include BIPOC specific grants, and placemaking grants for cultural investment in our under-resourced neighborhoods. Currently, I believe we have a volunteer Task Force that is in charge of distribution funds. While I like that many of the folks on the task force are artists and cultural leaders, I have seen a lot of divisiveness arise from the decisions made by the task force, and have seen artists pitted against each other. I would like to take another look at the makeup of this task force, and alternative ways of selecting and cycling members so that we aren't creating gatekeepers to the limited funding that we do have. Similar to our housing stock, I think we have a missing middle for arts funding. So I hope to find ways to invest in our independent and small non-profit arts organizations to build our cultural landscape and help our artists thrive in the City of Atlanta.

lashaunda M stafford

<p>What is your personal background and experience in the arts?</p>	<p>I am a supporter of arts and culture through donations., I am a regular participant as an arts patron., I participate in arts programming through my place of worship, community center, or other community-based group.</p>
<p>What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last few years (preCOVID to the present)?</p>	<p>Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary Arts (including book festivals or book clubs), Film (including film festivals), Visual Arts</p>
<p>What percentage of the Georgia economy revenue is made up of art and art related activities?</p>	<p>4.60%</p>
<p>The total economic impact of arts-related activities (pre-Covid-19) in the Atlanta region represents...</p>	<p>Over \$700 Million</p>
<p>The Atlanta region lost a net of __ arts and entertainment related jobs from 2019 to 2020.</p>	<p>24,000</p>
<p>Do you have an Arts Platform for Atlanta?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on the creation of an arts district in the city of Atlanta that would support affordable studios, affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and affordable presentation space (theatre, blackbox, gallery, meeting space, etc.).</p>	<p>I am supportive of initiatives that support the development of arts programming in the City and the artists we need to deliver it. We need deeper collaboration between the public, private and non-profit sectors to ensure that Atlanta remains an arts and cultural hub. I am eager to work with the key stakeholders to develop strategies that deliver that vision, including the creation of an arts district if we collectively determine that is the most effective path to success. There also may be opportunities to repurpose vacant City or APS buildings and properties for studio, rehearsal, and housing space for artists.</p>
<p>Please share your thoughts on providing relief funds from the American Relief Funds Act (ARPA) to arts organizations and artists</p>	<p>I am supportive of using relief funds to bolster those sectors of our local economy most in need of it. I have not seen an assessment of the relative needs of the various sectors of our economy most impacted by COVID, but I would certainly support aid to the creative sector if it was determined that they were in deep need</p>

lashaunda M stafford

<p>to recover, rebuild, and restore Atlanta's creative economy.</p>	
<p>What is your vision for the arts in Atlanta, a major airport hub, film hub, and economic engine of the Southeast? (What does it look like, feel like, sound like? Who are the people? There is no wrong answer.)</p>	<p>Atlanta must remain a center for the arts. While the arts generate significant economic impact for the city, more importantly it defines the type of city that we are, one that encourages free expression, the exchange of ideas, and values of inclusion. A city without a robust, diverse and active artistic community is not really a city. While it is important that we support the arts through funding and programming, it is just as important that the city “feels” welcoming to artists, particularly to young artists who are looking for a place to settle and build community. We can best do that by ensuring that our neighborhoods are affordable, livable and interesting. My commitment as Mayor is that we will do the large and small things needed to deliver that kind of city.</p>
<p>Is there any other information you would like voters to know?</p>	