Dear Candidate:

On behalf of the Georgia Arts Network and the Georgia Arts and Culture Venues Coalition, we are asking all candidates for statewide elected office the following questions. The responses will be shared in full with our respective newsletter subscribers and social media followers as well as shared on our website. We thank you in advance and look forward to sharing your responses with our constituencies.

Please return your completed survey to either president@gaartsnetwork.org or the PO Box below.

Sincerely,

Jessica Akers
Jessica Akers, President, Georgia Arts Network

Candidate Name: Jerrold Dagen
State Senate District 3

For which office are you running?

Would you please share your personal involvement in arts and culture (such as being an artist/performer, attending various events, supporting a spouse/child as they pursue the arts, donating to local organizations, or other items that may be personal to you)?

I am a writer, painter, photographer, and patron of the arts and music. I enjoy going to museums, art shows, and concerts.

My wife was also an artist, working in jewelry making. Also, our daughter, who paints and draws...

According to the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies FY2019 State Arts Agency Legislative Appropriation Preview, Georgia ranks 49th in per capita funding for our State Arts Agency. Do you believe that this is an appropriate level of investment? And why or why not?

We need to do much better. Art provides inspiration and balance in life. Art in school can help stimulate students, helping them in other classes.

The mission of the Georgia Arts Network is to strengthen, connect, and advocate for the arts in Georgia.

Georgia Arts Network, P.O. Box 244191, Atlanta, GA 30324
gaartsnetwork.org
What are your goals for arts education in our public school systems?

Too many schools lost art programs due to careless cuts to education. We need to ensure schools are able to restore art classes.

Do you support the statewide legalization of gaming at casino resorts?

No. Expansion of casinos has often led to negative results for communities. According to industry consultant CSL's 2016 analysis of the Casino Impact on Performing Arts Venues, there is a negative impact on existing local arts and cultural entertainment venues when casino-owned and funded entertainment venues are constructed in the market. Were you aware of this detrimental consequence? Do you think these civic assets deserve formal protection?

More venues for entertainment can lead to some of those venues losing business and revenue. We can support civic art groups and venues with planned thoughtful development.

Other states that have legalized casino gaming have included language in the legislation to protect local arts and cultural facilities, including provisions to prohibit or limit the capacity of entertainment venues housed at casino resorts. Would you introduce protection for Georgia's arts and culture facilities? If so, what would you propose?

The best solution is to not expand casino gaming in Georgia. We also need to restore cuts that were made to the arts.

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