

Candidate Information**Your name as it appears on the ballot**

Christopher Taylor

City, State & Zip

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

I am a candidate running for

City of Ann Arbor - Mayor

Party Affiliation - I am running as a/an

Democrat

I am currently an elected official and hold the office of:

Mayor of Ann Arbor

As an elected official, you have an opportunity to lead and influence public policy and investment in the arts + creative industries.

What are your personal beliefs, interests and investments in the arts + creative industries? Please check all that apply.

- I believe that the arts + creative industries are important and that they enhance and improve the quality of life, place and economy in our community making it a great place to create, live, work, learn, play and visit.
- People living in my community should have access to excellent and affordable art, creative, cultural and heritage offerings in our community.
- I believe every child in Washtenaw County should have access to excellent arts and creative education at every grade level.
- I am an amateur artist or creative and enjoy spending leisure time on these activities.
- I regularly make financial contributions to nonprofit art, cultural and/or heritage organizations.

Government/Municipal Planning - Integrating the Arts + Creative Industries

- Government/Municipal Strategic Plans
- Government/Municipal Economic Plans
- Government/Municipal Arts + Creative Industries Plan

Commissions - Establishing & Investing in an Arts + Creative Industries Commission

- An arts + creative industries commission charged with developing, implementing, maintaining and evaluating a comprehensive arts and creative industries plan (including public art and design). This commission will have proper resources including a budget and qualified staff resources.

- A Public Art & Design Commission (standalone) charged with developing, implementing, maintaining and evaluating a public art and design program. This commission will have proper resources including a budget and qualified staff resources.
- Working to establish a countywide arts +creative industries commission and/or agency with equitable representation and shared investment responsibilities by all Washtenaw County governments to develop, implement, maintain and evaluate a comprehensive arts and creative industries master plan.

Public Investment & Policy - Arts & Creative Industries

- Appropriations - direct spending on arts & creative programs such as including funding for commissions and qualified staff.
- Municipal grant program for projects and programs (not public art & design)
- Require the integration of public art & design into government building projects.
- Economic development support/grants specific to arts and creative industry projects/programs.
- Contributed public safety and services for special/community events.
- Government grants/opportunities requiring municipal engagement– with or without community partners, leading, providing staff and financial resources for planning, applications, project implementation and reporting.
- Disaster relief funds and services should be afforded the arts + creative industries (for and nonprofit) as it is other Michigan industries.

Emergency Relief and Restoration

- Yes, I will work to require that the arts + creative industries are included and have equitable decision-making responsibility at economic development agencies.

Arts + Creative Education Integration for Student Excellent (ACEISE) in Washtenaw County

My pre-K-12 education included arts + creative education.

- Yes, my pre-K-12 education included arts + creative education.

Arts + Creative Education

Yes, I will be an advocate in support of arts & creative education.

State of Michigan - Arts + Creative Industries Legislative Issues

What role do you believe elected officials and government agencies should play in leading arts and creative industry development and sustainability in their communities?

The arts add so much to our quality of life, and thus it is the responsibility of our government to promote the arts and ensure that each and every resident has access to creative industries. Elected officials should lead the charge and advocate for increased arts funding, increased arts visibility, and ensuring access to the arts is equitable across all racial and income backgrounds. As Mayor, I have consistently supported the arts and will continue to do so if re-elected.

If elected, what role will you take in leading arts & creative industry development and sustainability in your community?

Ann Arbor is nothing without its arts and creative industries—the liveliness of downtown, the education our schools provide, and our overall quality of life are enhanced dramatically with a thriving arts scene in the city. As Mayor, I have been a strong supporter of the city’s Public Art Commission, where I appoint members who firmly believe in the power of the arts to change lives and build community.

I will continue to support this commission if re-elected, and will continue to be a champion for the arts and creative industries. I will always be an advocate for increased arts funding, be it for downtown projects or in our schools. I look forward to working with Creative Washtenaw further to implement this vision for Ann Arbor!

If elected, I will be a leader and champion for the arts + creative industries in sessions, committee meetings and in my district. I look forward to working with and learning from those in my community practicing in, championing and advocating for the arts and creative industries.

- Yes, I will be a leader and champion for the arts + creative industries.

If elected, would you join a legislative arts, humanities and/or creative industries caucus?

- Yes, I would join.