

## Candidate Information

### Your name as it appears on the ballot

Shannon Beeman

### City, State & Zip

Manchester, Michigan 48158

### I am a candidate running for

Washtenaw County – Board of Commissioner – District 3

### Party Affiliation - I am running as a/an

Democrat

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

Washtenaw County Commissioner, District 3

### 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 a professional artist, creative and/or work in the creative industries.

### 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

- 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

- 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.
- 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.

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

Elected officials have the opportunity to highlight and invest in the strengths of a community. It has been shown that the arts are not only an economic driver but also impact the mental and physical health of residents. Additionally, the arts help to preserve cultural legacies, enabling future generations to connect or reconnect with their heritage. By supporting the arts, at a community level, elected officials invest in a vibrant and sustainable future.

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

I would work to ensure artists and creative businesses have a place at the table for economic development. My background is in entrepreneurship with a focus on creative entrepreneurship as I am an alumna of Kendall College of Art and Design. I will work with the Office of Community Economic Development to provide support or programs related to creative businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs.

### **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?**

- No, I would not join.