

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

Jason Morgan

**City, State & Zip**

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

**I am a candidate running for**

State of Michigan- State Representative,- District 23

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

Democrat

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

Washtenaw County Commissioner, District 8

**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.

**Government/Municipal Planning - Integrating the Arts + Creative Industries**

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

**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**

#### **Michigan Legislative Issues - Arts + Creative Industries.**

- Recognize arts + creative businesses (for profit and nonprofit) as an industry and incorporate it in Michigan's Economic Development Department
- Include the arts + creative industries and workers (including gig workers) in Michigan's economic development and workforce initiatives.
- Increase MACC funding, currently set at \$11 million.
- Insist that arts + creative education is available to every child in Michigan.
- Prioritize arts + creativity and engage its professionals in Michigan's tourism initiatives.

#### **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 are a critical part of our economy, education, and quality of life, and as such I believe that all elected officials should work to promote the arts and creative industries throughout our communities. The State of Michigan can and should play a significantly larger role in supporting increased arts funding, as well as support in our economic development planning and education system. It is my hope that we can give schools across Michigan adequate funding so that all students in the state are exposed to the arts from a young age. This increased funding should not stop at the schoolhouse door; rather, elected officials should advocate for arts funding to increase exposure for all ages. Elected officials should also work to improve arts visibility and ensure that access to the arts is equitable for people of all backgrounds and income levels.

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

In Lansing, I promise to be a strong advocate for funding the arts and improving arts access. I will push to increase creative industry funding from the state and will work with Creative Washtenaw and other like-minded organizations to achieve this goal. We need to ensure robust and sustainable funding to strengthen our creative economy. I will also push to ensure that every child in our great state receives an arts education—students in wealthier communities should not have plentiful access to the arts while others do not.

#### **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.

#### **If yes, which caucus would you join?**

- Michigan Legislative Creative Caucus
- Washtenaw County Arts & Creative Industries Caucus - when it is formed.