

Candidate: *Rep Ralph Warnock*
Party: *Democrat*
State: *Georgia*
District:



1. Question: What is your personal background and experience in the arts? (check all that apply)

Instrumental Vocal Visual Dance Theater Photography Literary Other

Additional Comments (optional): *I played the band starting out in trumpet in elementary school and switched to baritone horn in high school*

2. Question: What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last year?

Music Theater Visual Arts Dance Literary Arts Other None

Additional Comments (optional):

Background: The budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was cut in half during the 1990s. With its current funding of \$155 million, the NEA spends just 47 cents per American—half the cost of a pack of gum.

3. Question: Would you support a plan to increase federal arts funding to the NEA to \$1 per American, so that arts organizations can present even more accessible arts programs for all its residents?

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Undecided

Additional Comments (optional):

Background: With the implementation of *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), states now have more responsibility for providing a well-rounded education – including the arts. Support for arts education can best be done when states are provided adequate funding and resources to administer, research and provide accountability for arts education programs.

4. Question: Would you support full funding (\$1.6 billion) of the Well-Rounded Education provisions of ESSA, including data collection of arts education programs by the states and advocating for the expansion of STEM education to STEAM by incorporating arts education?

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Undecided

Additional Comments (optional):

Background: As a result of tax reform changes in 2017, the charitable tax deduction incentive is now only available to high income bracket individuals who still itemize their deductions. The pool of itemizers has now been significantly diminished.

5. Question: Would you support an across-the-board charitable tax deduction for ALL—not just the taxpayers who itemize their deductions—so that individuals at all income levels will be encouraged to make tax-deductible charitable donations to their favorite charities?

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Undecided

Additional Comments (optional):

Background: Currently, the creative economy is an impressive \$804 billion industry, representing 4.3% of the nation's Gross Domestic Product. However, the artists, entrepreneurs, small businesses and nonprofit organizations that generate this GDP are often disconnected from our nation's economic development and assistance programs.

6. Question: Would you help create a national service Artists Corps and support legislation for artists, nonprofit arts organizations, and small businesses in the creative sector to fully access federal economic development programs?

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Undecided

Additional Comments (optional):

For more detailed information on these arts policy issues, please visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/LegislativePriorities.

Completed By: *Donna Mangler*

Date: *12/1/20*

For questions or to send survey responses, contact the Arts Action Fund at akruszel@artsusa.org.