

Arts and Culture Candidate Questionnaire 2021 City of Roswell Local Elections

Compiled by Roswell Arts Fund



INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your commitment to supporting Arts & Culture in Roswell!

Did you know? 81% of Roswell Residents are in favor of bringing more Public Art to Roswell, and 82% believe that City funding should be a part of this effort.*

This questionnaire will give you an opportunity to inform the community about where you stand on advancing the arts in Roswell.

Responses received will be collected, compiled, and shared with voters to educate them about your arts & culture platform or position.

It is respectfully requested that you return your response no later than 5:00 pm October 1st, 2021 to give our constituency time to provide helpful feedback, and to give you a chance to address any questions or concerns that may arise.

Publication and promotion of your response will begin in October in conjunction with National Arts & Humanities Month and continue through Election Day.

We know your time is valuable and appreciate your efforts to inform the community of your positions!

If you have questions, please feel free to connect with me at ghila@roswellartsfund.org

With gratitude,
Ghila Sanders, Executive Director
Roswell Arts Fund

**Roswell Public Art Master Plan, 2017*

Thank you to The Arts & Culture Collaborative Initiative in Savannah, GA and particularly to Rob Hessler of Bigger Pie Arts Advocacy for providing inspiration and resources

CANDIDATES

Mayoral Candidates

- Kurt Wilson
- Jason Yowell
- (No response – Lori Henry)

City Council Member: Post 4

- Peter Vanstrom
- Marie Willsey

City Councilmember: Post 5

- Michael Dal Cerro
- Will Morthland
- (No response – Yalonda Freeman)

City Councilmember: Post 6

- Lee Hills
- Matt Judy

BLANK QUESTIONNAIRE

1. **About You**

- Name
- Email

2. **Arts and Healthy Economy:** *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

3. **Arts Create Cultural Destinations:** *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

4. **Municipal Support of the Creative Community:** *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities, but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY*

- 1% of new public capital improvements dedicated to implementing arts and cultural activities
- Implementation of a mandatory meeting with the Designated Art Agency for all private developers seeking permits to discuss opportunities to embed the arts into their proposed projects
- Facilitation of the temporary use of vacant city properties by artists and/or arts organizations for short-term installations and community engagement activities
- Incorporation of public art in new government funded projects
- Development of an arts & culture overlay district
- Inclusion of Designated Art Agency in department planning processes of city owned master projects and developments
- Other

If you selected 'other', please elaborate:

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

MAYORAL CANDIDATE KURT WILSON

Submission Date: October 1, 2021

1. About You

- Name: Kurt Wilson
- Email: kurt@kurt4roswell.com

2. Arts and Healthy Economy: *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

A Great City is defined by certain parameters with respect to its quality of life. Those begin with a commitment to continually improving the Quality of Life for its residents by a few key issues:

1. Public Safety and how we live together
2. Education for children and adults
3. Places to go and be together

A commitment to the Arts that does not always mean that there is a reciprocal return on investment. This is one of the questions from my perspective that many elected officials misunderstand about the equation.

A Great City has a commitment to its Art's and to embrace not only its past, but it present and future of a diverse and rich people of intersection of backgrounds who can come together on the Art's.

One of the many ways as Mayor that I will support the Art's is by funding them and celebrating them in our community as a place for our fellow residents to enjoy and gather together. No small objective.

Second, in my campaign I am committing to do a Private/Public Partnership along some very strong cultural pieces that will make an indelible impression to our city including a major art museum, and or botanical gardens for starters.

Third, in my campaign you have seen my commitment to executing the Roswell Rivers Master Project from May of 2016.

Arts are a critical component of we are going as a City under my leadership

3. Arts Create Cultural Destinations: *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

Amen!!! Please refer to my earlier answer with respect a Public/Private Partnership as a major destination place not only for Roswell Residents, but for our friends and neighbors in North Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia and the entire Southeast United States.

4. Municipal Support of the Creative Community: *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities,*

but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

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- Development of an arts & culture overlay district
- Inclusion of Designated Art Agency in department planning processes of city owned master projects and developments

UNSELECTED

- a. Other

If you selected 'other', please elaborate:

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

I grew up with a dad who spoke seventeen different languages ranging from Swahili to Russian. My early years were surrounded by people from all over the globe, and it instructed me to have not only an incredible appetite for knowledge, but to be incredibly comfortable with people from all walks of life - especially those who did not look like me, or speak the same language as me, or practice the same religion as me, etc. This was an incredible gift that has served me my entire life in my ability to love and connect with people, and more importantly with respect to the question above - to lead.

Right now, Roswell needs leadership in a variety of ways. Arts and Culture is just one of those, but Arts and Culture can either be a glib commitment from someone running for office, or it can be thoroughly understood inside of one's soul as a vital part of a vibrant community.

The one thing I can commit to you is an absolute commitment to the Arts and Culture of Roswell.

Thank You,
Kurt M. Wilson

**MAYORAL CANDIDATE
JASON YOWELL**

Submission Date: September 20, 2021

1. **About You**

- Name: Jason Yowell
- Email: jeowell1@yahoo.com

2. **Arts and Healthy Economy:** *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

We need to make our historic homes available for film and TV production. Not only will that generate revenue, it will bring tourists that love to visit locations they have seen on tv.

3. **Arts Create Cultural Destinations:** *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

The city should work with developers of mixed use and other retail projects to loan out vacant commercial space to artists to use as studios until they are rented.

4. **Municipal Support of the Creative Community:** *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities, but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY*

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- Implementation of a mandatory meeting with the Designated Art Agency for all private developers seeking permits to discuss opportunities to embed the arts into their proposed projects
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- Other

If you selected 'other', please elaborate:

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

This candidate is disappointed that the most talked about, most controversial, and largest private art installation in the city, THE REDNECK YACHT CLUB, located on nearly a full acre in the middle of Azalea Park, has not been acknowledged by the arts fund.

**POST 4 CANDIDATE
PETER VANSTROM**

Submission Date: October 1, 2021

1. About You

- Name: Peter Vanstrom
- Email: peter@vanstrom4roswell.com

2. Arts and Healthy Economy: *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

I think that Visit Roswell has an innovative arts and cultural program with "Film Roswell". Our "Camera Ready" initiative is a model of marketplace-driven responsiveness that is serving the city of Roswell very well. Filming here in Roswell not only brings the diverse beauty of our town to a wide audience of visitors interested in spending time in our city, but also provides a revenue stream for the city, and creates business opportunities with film crews providing day visitors and customers for our local businesses.

3. Arts Create Cultural Destinations: *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

Roswell is a diverse city with unique natural assets and beauty. One of the greatest expressions of public art is the design and architecture of public buildings. Beautiful and expressive public building architecture is a tradition that has been in the forefront of public art since the "City Beautiful" Movement that began at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. As Roswell is a city that is practically built-out, our opportunities for new public buildings are somewhat limited with the exception of the River Master Plan, where we have the opportunity to create and promote Roswell's brand of the premier River community through the design and architecture of public buildings, and a natural landscaping plan that celebrates native plants in a setting that will attract audiences from Roswell and beyond our city limits.

4. Municipal Support of the Creative Community: *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities, but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY*

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- Facilitation of the temporary use of vacant city properties by artists and/or arts organizations for short-term installations and community engagement activities
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OTHER

I am an advocate that one of the best expressions of public art marries form and function. I think your "Bike Rack" program is a good example. I am a biker so I am very supportive of Roswell's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Roswell as a city is basically built-out, however, we do have a department that is still engaged in large, public works projects, and that department is transportation. Again, going back to my belief that good public art combines form and function, I would like to see more thought given to what our bridges, roads, sidewalks look like, bury utility lines where possible within the the project budget and have a plan that creates tree-lined streets not just a motor way for cars. I would like to see us utilize these limited opportunities to advance Roswell's brand as a premier, family-friendly river community

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

I have developed an appreciation for arts and culture through a lifetime of diverse experiences and extensive travel. The design and architecture of public buildings and public spaces touches all our residents and visitors and has the potential to impact their quality of life in a positive way. On a personal level, I have experienced how combining form and function with a good design can create a successful economic environment. As Chair of the Northlake Community Alliance Board of Trustees, I directed a \$1M revitalization that included area beautification, streetscape enhancements and traffic flow improvements resulting in a thriving area that created more than 600 jobs.

**POST 4 CANDIDATE
MARIE WILLSEY**

Submission Date: October 1, 2021

1. **About You**

- Name: Marie Willsey
- Email: mariewillsey@icloud.com

2. **Arts and Healthy Economy:** *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

From an economic development standpoint, the arts create jobs, attract investment, and stimulate the economy through additional spending by patrons and tourists. Roswell has a strong arts community and reputation. It is a strength I believe we should build upon through policies and funding, public/private partnership initiatives, and strengthening relationships between the city, the designated arts organization, and other arts, cultural, and historical organizations. As part of an economic development plan, there are many opportunities to explore. Roswell is extremely attractive to the film industry, and we should continue to focus on developing that market and related industries. A performing arts center could be a catalytic focus of a redevelopment plan for the HBR/400 quadrant or the downtown area. Revitalization/redevelopment projects should be encouraged to incorporate public art and other approaches to place-making, as well as any city capital improvement projects. Incorporating arts and cultural initiatives into our economic development plan offers an exciting way for Roswell to continue to differentiate from other cities in the region and build upon so many positive aspects of our community to make sure residents and visitors alike continue to "play" in Roswell and enjoy an exceptional quality of life.

3. **Arts Create Cultural Destinations:** *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

The arts enrich and differentiate communities by creating connections, bringing people together, representing diverse perspectives and cultures, and enhancing quality of life. Roswell has a reputation as a destination for art, dining, breweries, festivals, and entertainment, and I believe we have an opportunity to build upon that reputation. I am very supportive of opportunities for public art and growing and strengthening the cultural community.

4. **Municipal Support of the Creative Community:** *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities, but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY*

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UNSELECTED

OTHER

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

For the past seven years, I have been a strong advocate for the arts and its importance to the economy as well as to Roswell's quality of life. I am excited about the opportunities ahead for arts and culture to play an even more important role in our community and to support economic development efforts and tourism. However, we must continue to advocate and educate city officials about the positive impact of the creative economy—for a relatively small investment. I will continue to work hard to help envision and promote these opportunities, and to help facilitate relationships and connections for arts organizations with key stakeholders. I am excited about the opportunities to strengthen the arts in Roswell and will work to see key initiatives advanced, including public art, placemaking, performing arts, and film-related efforts.

**POST 5 CANDIDATE
MICHAEL DAL CERRO**

Submission Date: October 1, 2021

1. **About You**

- Name: Michael Dal Cerro
- Email: michaeld4roswell@gmail.com

2. **Arts and Healthy Economy:** *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

It is my desire to continue building on the great relationship I already have today with the Roswell Arts Fund. I am open to meeting with the Roswell Arts Fund, city leadership and community leadership about arts and its economic impact to Roswell.

The benefits of a complete and well thought out plan offers a positive social and economic impact to Roswell. Meaningful art offers a sustainable level of creativity and innovation for the community. This includes the local economy, our local merchants. And we can see an increase of tourism, which means more guests to our restaurants, hotels and other destinations.

Also we have a great community of artists in Roswell. They are a valued part of our cultural fabric of Roswell. They are a resource pool who do so many wonderful works. We can look at tools and resources to help them work with and collaborate with other artists. Artists collaborating and sharing ideas with one another will help unleash the current pool of arts. And when this happens it can even help identify and foster a hidden pool of artists.

3. **Arts Create Cultural Destinations:** *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

"Celebrating the arts..." is part of the city's vision, as described in Roswell's newly minted strategic plan.

Art comes in many forms, from sculpture to paint to music. Just to name a few. Arts enhances our unique charm and identity, brings more visitors to the city, and makes our city more vibrant and alive.

And I am open to looking at meaningful ways to incorporate various forms of art in the city.

4. **Municipal Support of the Creative Community:** *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities,*

but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

SELECTED

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- Incorporation of public art in new government funded projects
- Development of an arts & culture overlay district
- Inclusion of Designated Art Agency in department planning processes of city owned master projects and developments

UNSELECTED

OTHER

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

The arts is very important to me. And arts have played a key part of my own life and who I am today.

I have always had a fondness of the arts, especially music! When growing up here in Roswell I was heavily involved in the music program at Roswell High School. I was in the band program for all four years, including Marching Band, Jazz Band and the various indoor bands. That goes back to 1988 - 1991. I was even the Drum Major for the Youth Day Parade in 1989.

Then nearly 33 years later I wanted to give back. I became a Co-President of the Roswell High School Band Boosters. We have certainly done halftime shows, concerts and local activities. In addition I have worked with members of the board and leadership at the Roswell Arts Fund to explore ways how the band kids and the program can contribute and give back to Roswell. In fact we were able to have the Roswell High School Jazz Band get involved with the Roswell Arts Fund First Annual Pop Up Performance Series. The kids played at the Vickery Rose Retirement Community.

POST 5 CANDIDATE WILL MORTHLAND

Submission Date: October 1, 2021

1. About You

- Name: Will Morthland
- Email: morthland4roswell@gmail.com

2. Arts and Healthy Economy: *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

Roswell needs to continue to invest in programming that gives back and expands the cultural diversity in and around our community. Our commitment should be clear, in both time and treasure, to provide artist expression in and around our parks, events at the Cultural Arts center, and offering classes for residents of Roswell and drawing people from surrounding communities. The inclusiveness and appreciation of cultures should be felt throughout the programming and with those participating - so Roswell is known as a place to seek and engage in diverse, well organized and professionally orchestrated cultural events.

3. Arts Create Cultural Destinations: *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

In order to grow both our cultural community and extended audiences to participate in our Arts programming, we need to have a shared vision for what Roswell can offer and in what environment that is safe for our residents and participants. Many of our events at the Cultural Center and town square were shut down for COVID precautions, and programming in the future may look different but can still deliver immense impact. Sandy Springs invested in a new, prosperous Arts Center that has drawn large shows and audiences to performances - some from our local dance and performing groups. We should see a vision that keeps Arts local but can draw larger programming - from our outdoor spaces along the river to our historical landmarks and meeting halls than can draw larger audiences and experiences.

4. Municipal Support of the Creative Community: *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities, but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY*

SELECTED

- Inclusion of Designated Art Agency in department planning processes of city owned master projects and developments

UNSELECTED

- 1% of new public capital improvements dedicated to implementing arts and cultural activities
- Implementation of a mandatory meeting with the Designated Art Agency for all private developers seeking permits to discuss opportunities to embed the arts into their proposed projects
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- Development of an arts & culture overlay district

OTHER

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

I am a lucky man to be surrounded by different cultural perspectives everyday. My wife and our family share her Filipino background with pride. I help families of all cultural backgrounds through their home buying journey - and love learning about their diverse lives and what make a "home" unique to them. Art to me intensifies inclusiveness in a community - sharing different perspectives whether it be in the form of visual art, dramatic performances, educational programming or simple cooking classes offered in the various art centers around town. I support Arts & Cultural funding where appropriate to strengthen our investment in growth and diversification for Roswell as a sought out location for Arts and Culture programming, filming and enterprise development.

POST 6 CANDIDATE LEE HILLS

Submission Date: October 1, 2021

1. **About You**

- Name: Lee Hills
- Email: lee hills4roswell@gmail.com

2. **Arts and Healthy Economy:** *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

I am excited to be a part of the decision-making regarding arts in Roswell once elected. As soon as the Mayor and council set the budget, I will entertain any and all requests. I was a Fine Arts Major at Auburn University and ran a small business years ago selling my 2-dimensional work.

3. **Arts Create Cultural Destinations:** *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

Roswell is not utilizing our assets to their fullest to promote the arts. I have enjoyed the annual Quilt Show displayed at Bulloch Hall many times. The setting was a bonus to the exhibit. Our city can truly benefit by hosting art shows, exhibitions and fairs at or with historic sites and notable spaces throughout Roswell. We have so much to offer our residents and our visitors. When leveraging multiple entities toward a unified effort, everyone wins.

4. **Municipal Support of the Creative Community:** *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities, but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY*

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UNSELECTED

OTHER

The short-term-use of vacant city properties appears to be an easy one - Yes. We are currently living in a 'Pop-Up' life-culture. This opportunity would inspire artists to engage without a long-term commitment while also offering enjoyment of the arts to consumers.

All other items listed above are of interest to me and I welcome the opportunity to have a seat at that table to discuss. I agree and support a well-thought-out plan with short and long term goals to incorporate a cohesive art strategy throughout our city. We have so many artists right here! I can think of no reason to withhold well-planned enjoyment of the arts from our residents and visitors. Roswell is rich with culture and with my artist's background I will work toward creating an outlet that will serve our city and support the arts in Roswell.

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

I am an artist! My media are watercolor, oils, and sometimes acrylic, but I enjoy all types of creativity.

People enjoy attending art exhibits, fairs, shows, and special showcases featuring specific genres of work. Visiting one of our historic homes or an iconic outdoor site where they've not been before might just be the temptation to get them to attend. Many patrons that enjoy the arts have no idea how to get started on collecting or even just enjoying. As a city, we have great opportunity to build a calendar of amazing events that will serve Roswell and her visitors. I look forward to being part of that initiative once elected.

**POST 6 CANDIDATE
MATT JUDY**

Submission Date: September 29, 2021

1. **About You**

- Name: Matt Judy
- Email: matt@mattjudy.com

2. **Arts and Healthy Economy:** *Other tourist-driven cities that are similar in size to Roswell have implemented plans that strengthen their cultural communities. What is your plan to help grow and strengthen the arts and cultural fabric of Roswell? How will you include the arts in your economic development plan?*

I believe the Roswell Arts Fund has put Roswell on the map as an Arts friendly City. I look forward to further collaborating with the Roswell Arts Fund in a financial and strategic way to keep the momentum gained. Looking at other cities funding such as Greenville, SC 's funding of the Metropolitan Arts Council, we must find ways to get creative and help encourage further charitable participation in the Arts Fund over and above the City's involvement. I am a big fan of partner organizations and believe in the Roswell Arts Fund.

3. **Arts Create Cultural Destinations:** *Prior to COVID-19, Americans for the Arts reported that the arts industry generated roughly \$28.7 billion for GA. We have the opportunity to attract audiences from Roswell and beyond city limits. What is your vision for Roswell as an arts and cultural destination? Would you support opportunities for public art, enact policies to grow and strengthen the cultural community? (Link to AFTA Arts Report: <https://www.artsactionfund.org/georgia>)*

Absolutely I would support growing our breadth of opportunity. With Roswell becoming a more Film Friendly City and major productions happening almost every week, I feel we have an opportunity to use that platform to our advantage. To not look at trying to take advantage of a \$28.7 billion industry and try to grow our piece of the pie in that industry for local business, residents and our City would be foolish.

4. **Municipal Support of the Creative Community:** *Public-private partnerships with arts and culture enterprises have been a necessary means to keep arts and culture within communities, but this model is not reliable or sustainable. If elected, what programs would you help enact to shift this paradigm? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY*

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- Facilitation of the temporary use of vacant city properties by artists and/or arts organizations for short-term installations and community engagement activities
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- Inclusion of Designated Art Agency in department planning processes of city owned master projects and developments

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OTHER

- Portions of the above
- As I stated earlier in the answers, my experience and collaboration with the Roswell Arts Fund over the past 4 years has been a pleasant one. I would love to learn/research all of the above suggestions and see how they fit in with our Strategic Plan, Comprehensive Plan, etc. and insert when appropriate. Having those with an expertise explain the opportunities in greater detail along with looking at possible opportunity from a wholistic view will bring us great success. I believe the opening of clearer and more frequent communication with our partner orgs such as RAF is necessary to take us to the next level.

5. **What message do you want to share about why you are the best candidate for arts & culture in Roswell?**

My experience in learning about the Arts Fund over the last 4 years allows me to take that knowledge/relationships and apply them from Day 1 versus the typical learning curve it takes when elected. I have built meaningful relationships with those involved and while not an art buff, can appreciate and respect what Arts & Culture mean to a City such as ours both financially and culturally. To keep pace and improve upon who we are as a city, this is an important relationship to continue to foster from inside City Hall. Hopefully one day my son will say one of the main reasons he came home to raise a family in Roswell is the Arts & Cultural diversity present.