

# 2022 Candidate Survey Responses

## New York State Governor

**Name: Kathy Hochul, Democrat**

**Current Occupation: Governor of New York**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes*

Several statewide plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a NYS nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

**Name: Lee Zeldin, Republican**

No response received

## New York State Senate (Districts 57, 60-63)

We had several NYS Senate candidates from outside of Western New York submit surveys. See their responses **here**

*District 57*

**Name: Daniel Brown, Democrat**

**Current Occupation: Dairy Farmer – self employed and Great Valley Town Supervisor**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes*

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practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*Living in an area where many industries have left, we need to look to other means to of economic development to stabilize our communities.*

**Name: George Borrello, Republican**

No response received

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*District 60*

**Name: Patrick Gallivan, Republican**

**Current Occupation: NYS Senator**

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*Yes*

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*District 61*

**Name: Sean Ryan, Democrat**

**Current Occupation: New York State Senator**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*In the 2022-2023 budget, I worked with my colleagues and leadership to significantly increase funding for the arts including smaller arts organizations across New York State. I will continue to do so in another term in the New York State Senate.*

Several statewide plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a NYS nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*We must do everything possible to support our nonprofit arts sector and the investment in brings to communities across New York. A dedicated task force would be helpful to increase investment and the focus on this sector.*

**Name: Edward Rath III, Republican**

**Current Occupation: New York State Senator District 61**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*The arts provide countless benefits to both individuals and communities at large. They provide an outlet for people to express themselves, they bring people together, they provide jobs and attract tourists to the area, as well as acting as an educational tool.*

Several statewide plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a NYS nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*Task forces are an important mechanism to explore different issues and offer solutions and paths forward. Open dialogue through a bipartisan task force will bring interested stakeholders to the table that would be beneficial to helping arts business in NYS*

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*District 62*

**Name: Robert Ortt, Republican**

No response received

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*District 63*

**Name: Timothy Kennedy, Democrat**

**Current Occupation: NYS Senator – 63rd District**

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*Yes*

**New York State Assembly (Districts 139-150)**

*District 139*

**Name: Jennifer Keys, Democrat**

No response received

**Name: Stephan Hawley, Republican**

No response received

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District 140

**Name: William Conrad, Democrat**

**Current occupation: NYS Assembly 140th**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes.*

Optional comment:

*Maintaining our state arts funding is a priority for me.*

Several statewide plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a NYS nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*I appreciate the sharing of sustainability practices.*

**Name: Scott Marciszewski, Republican**

**Current occupation: Chief of patrol at SUNY police**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

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*Yes*

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District 141

**Name: Crystal Peoples-Stokes, Democrat**

No response received

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*District 142*

**Name: Patrick Burke, Democrat**

**Current occupation: NYS Assembly**

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*Yes*

**Name: Sandra Magnano, Republican**

**Current occupation: RN and hostess Mangia's**

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*Yes*

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*District 143*

**Name: Monica Wallace, Democrat**  
**Current occupation: Assemblymember**

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*Yes*

**Name: Frank Smierciak, Democrat**

No response received

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*District 144*

**Name: Michael J. Norris, Republican**

No response received

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*District 145*

**Name: Douglas Mooradian, Democrat**

No response received

**Name: Angelo J. Morinello, Republican**

No response received

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**Name: Karen McMahon, Democrat**

**Current occupation: NYS Assembly Member**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes.*

Optional comment:

*I'm proud to support the arts through funding of the NYSCA and would advocate for level or increased funding. I believe that the arts are essential to a compassionate, livable, and vibrant community.*

Several statewide plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a NYS nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*As legislators, we are always looking to experts in the field to assist us in our decision-making process. I would advocate for and welcome the input of a nonprofit arts task force that would highlight the issues unique to the nonprofit arts sector.*

**Name: Katrina Zepowitz, Republican**

**Current occupation: Legislative Aide, NYS Senate**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes.*

Optional comment:

*I believe highly in the arts and its impact on people of all ages. The arts create cultural richness within a community, exposing people to a variety of thoughts and ideas that fosters compassion and self-awareness, which benefits society as a whole.*

Several statewide plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a NYS nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability



practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

*Albany often has a listening issue. A task force, if done properly, could bridge the gap between organizations and state legislators that would help our state leaders to make more fitting solutions to issues affecting the nonprofit arts sector.*

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*District 147*

**Name: David DePietro, Democrat**

No response received

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*District 148*

**Name: Joseph Giglio, Republican**

No response received

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*District 149*

**Name: Jonathan Rivera, Democrat**

No response received

**Name: Ralph Hernandez, Republican**

No response received

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*District 150*

**Name: Sandra Lewis, Democrat**

**Current occupation: Emeritus Professional SUNY Fredonia**

The current 2022 funding of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is \$92.5 million. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase state arts funding for NYSCA, so that arts organizations across the state can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for all NYS residents?

*Yes.*

Optional comment:

*I teach STEM courses and was inspired when it was changed to STEAM. Art has always been apart of my creative application of mathematics in the classroom.*

Several statewide plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a NYS nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to state representatives when making statewide decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment:

My personal arts business involves music, textiles and mathematics. Categorizing art as an curricular activity will promote creativity and produce brilliant ideas which would contribute to education and economic development.

**Name: Andrew Goodell, Republican**

No response received

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## **US House of Representatives (Districts 23 & 26)**

*District 23*

**Name: Max Della Pia, Democrat**

**Current occupation: Candidate for Congress NY23**

The current 2022 funding of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is \$180 million, .004% of the federal budget, and \$0.54 per capita. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase federal arts funding at this level, so that arts organizations in your district can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for your residents?

*Yes.*

Several federal plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to representatives when making decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment: *I think art councils partnering with local schools would be a way to involve our communities and our youth and stimulate interest in the arts beyond tourism.*

**Name: Nicholas Langworthy, Republican**

**Current occupation:** Chairman, New York Republican State Committee

The current 2022 funding of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is \$180 million, .004% of the federal budget, and \$0.54 per capita. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase federal arts funding at this level, so that arts organizations in your district can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for your residents?

*No*

Additional comment: *I have great respect for the arts and tremendous admiration for artists. I believe strongly in supporting the arts. With that being said, I also know that our country faces a significant number of fiscal challenges. I do not believe now is the time to make ironclad financial commitments with our tax dollars so I would consider maintaining our current funding.*

Several federal plans and task forces address sectors other than nonprofit arts, and many times the arts are considered under the context of tourism only. If elected, would you advocate for the inclusion of a nonprofit arts task force, which could assist with the arts sector's economic development and sustainability practices, and serve as expert partners to representatives when making decisions in relation to arts business?

*Yes*

Optional comment: *I will gladly speak on behalf of the arts and do what I can to use the arts world as a driver of economic development. As long as it is fiscally responsible, I will gladly work to ensure that the arts are not solely viewed in the context of tourism and tourism promotion.*

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*District 26*

**Name: Brian Higgins, Democrat**

**Current occupation:** U.S. House of Representatives

The current 2022 funding of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is \$180 million, .004% of the federal budget, and \$0.54 per capita. Would you support a plan to maintain or increase federal arts funding at this level, so that arts organizations in your district can continue hiring local artists and present even more accessible arts programs for your residents?

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*Yes*

**Name: Steven L. Sams II, Republican**  
**Current occupation:** Retired U.S. Army

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*Yes*

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## **US Senate**

**Name: Chuck Schumer, Democrat**

No response received

**Name: Joe Pinion, Republican**

No response received

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