



# KINGSTON VOTES ON 24 OCTOBER

## 2022 Candidate Art and Culture Survey

### Joel Thompson, District 3 Collins-Bayridge

#### Do you think art and culture add value to Kingston? How does it contribute?

Yes absolutely. As a past board member for the Kingston Symphony I have seen first hand how art and culture can benefit individuals of all ages. From youth to seniors, long term residents and new comers alike. Arts and culture allow people to see themselves represented in our community and express who they are. Arts represent a way to bring people together in a world that could not be more divided.

#### Please rate the following statements:

The arts inspire and innovate. We should support artists as leaders in our community.	Strongly agree
The arts are essential to the social fabric and cultural identity of Kingston residents.	Strongly agree
The arts are important to the community, contributing to the wellness and sense of belonging of Kingston residents.	Strongly agree
The arts are not interesting to me, but I understand they have value to the City.	Disagree
The arts are enjoyed by some people, but they don't need public support.	Disagree

#### What are the most important ways the City of Kingston can engage with arts and culture through strategic planning, policy, investment, programming, etc.?

Supporting the arts must be included in our strategic planning, we must update out of date policies, we must continue to make investments not just financial but with our times as well as councillors to champion programming and we must be active in introducing new year round programming.

#### Do you support continued funding for arts and culture in the municipal budget?

Yes absolutely and we must champion the arts with partnership with other community groups.

#### Can the arts community count on you to be an advocate at Council in the future?

Yes; I look forward to volunteering to be one of the councillors on the Arts Advisory sub committee