

RESPONSE BY: JOHN SANTORO, CANDIDATE FOR COUNCILLOR WARD 1 VAUGHAN

COMMUNITY / PROMOTION / ACCESS:

What will you do to ensure the general public has greater access to experience and enjoy the arts in your municipality?

Ensure local artists are provided with a platform to showcase their talents and any and all City of Vaughan events.

What is one small concrete example of supporting the arts that you can do on a monthly basis?

Attend or speak at events organized by the artistic community.

With many jobs being developed in media arts related fields, what are your plans to ensure talent stays in the region instead of moving to innovative hubs like Waterloo, Vancouver and Silicon Valley?

Work with developers to ensure that work is awarded to local artists as a condition of obtaining a building permit.

How will you contribute to growth of the arts in the future for the next generation of artists?

See above.

INTRINSIC VALUE:

What municipal arts and culture events/programming do you attend and support, and have you purchased work created by local artists?

Honestly, I would not even know how to find local artists due to the lack of exposure that has been provided.

PLATFORM:

In your list of the ten top priorities of your platform, where would supporting the arts place on your list? Why there?

I feel that arts are important especially with the growth of the movie industry in Canada and Toronto specifically. I do not see why the City of Vaughan could not be established as a City for large scale artistic projects with the right promotion and engagement of professionals in that industry.

Anything that could be done to bring jobs to the City within the artistic community would be a high priority equal to all other priorities.

Arts and culture are a barometer of the health of a community, town, or city. How will you profile/give a place to arts and culture in your municipal structure, strategic planning, marketing and reporting of achievements?

See above.

What kind of municipal policy would you propose to encourage artists to be able to work and live in your municipality?

See above.

SPACE:

How will you ensure that artists in your municipality receive affordable space to create and showcase their work?

I would attempt to find City space that may be available to use for free.

How do you envision the inclusion of local art in the public realm?

See above.

EDUCATION:

Where do you see arts education fitting into your electoral platform - in school programming, health programs and/or community programs?

Being that this is a Municipal Election, the only authority to make change would be at a Municipal level.

FUNDING:

Do you believe that it's vital to have municipal granting programs to fund local artists and arts organizations to create and present work in your municipality? If so, how will you advocate for this funding?

See above: Working with builders and developers.

There is a noticeable gap between arts spaces (studio, exhibition, performing, etc.) for emerging and professional artists in York Region, making it challenging for artists to stay in the area while growing their professions. What do you think the municipality's role is in funding spaces for emerging to mid-career artists?

Not sure exactly what you mean by "funding spaces," however I would allow local artist to showcase their work at City events.

Thank you for your interests in my views.