

BCT Candidate Questionnaire
Darryl Moore

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1. *What role do you see the arts playing in Berkeley's future? What specific policies or directives should the City Council champion to make this happen?*

Arts in is an intrinsic part of the fabric of Berkeley. We absolutely value our Civic Arts Program and the wide array of visual and performing arts organizations in our city. For the first time in a long time, the city is undergoing a rather extensive strategic planning process, in which it is priority and goal setting. The Arts community should absolutely be at the table during this process and I will absolutely go to bat for the Arts community during this process. As stated below, the Arts are a huge economic driver for our community and we have to make sure that we are doing our part to supporting it.

2. *Recently, Berkeley citizens came together and worked with the City Council to win our first increase in funding to the Civic Arts Grant Program in 14 years. Knowing how important the arts are as an economic driver and community building block, what concrete ideas do you have to create a sustainable and progressive income stream to support our growing, vibrant, and diverse arts ecosystem in the years to come?*

I was very proud to be part of the effort to pass the Private Percentage for the Arts, which required developers to pay 1% of construction costs toward on-site publicly accessible art, or an in-lieu fee toward the Cultural Trust Fund of slightly less than 1%. I believe that this will go a long way to ensure that we have a robust Cultural Trust Fund. An additional source of funding could be derived from the existing public percentage for the arts. Several years back, the Civic Arts Coordinator brought it to my attention that, while city capital projects, ie. building rehabs or construction, are subject to the percentage toward the Cultural Trust Fund, that the city's sewer fund does not pay toward the Cultural Trust Fund. I would argue that this should be subsumed under the general category of "capital projects" and, therefore, should be paying a portion toward the Cultural Trust Fund. This could be another possible source of revenue used to ensure the sustainability of our incredibly important Arts community.

3. *Affordable housing is clearly a big issue across the whole Bay Area. Working artists increasingly struggle to find a place to live in our competitive rent market. Please explain how you would address this problem.*

I believe that affordability is an issue across the board. I believe that one of the problems that we face is that, while we have done a great deal to promote affordable housing for the very lowest income brackets, we have not done a great job of promoting "workforce housing." Typically, this is seen as an focused on serving our teachers, public safety workers, nurses, etc., but I think that a vast majority of working artists also

fall into this category. If we grow this portion of our housing stock, I believe we will do a better job of retaining working artists in our community. Additionally, I believe that the affordability crisis that is affecting our artist community is not exclusive to housing costs. I believe that studio and working space has also fallen victim to the Bay Area's increasing rental costs. While the West Berkeley Plan does set out a good road map to preserving artist space, I believe we need to take a more proactive approach to establishing affordable spaces for artists to work.

4. *What other issues concerning the arts community would you like to address? How might the arts community collaborate with the city to address the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century?*

I believe diversity, in a number of aspects, is an issue that I believe is important to the arts community. Art is about expression and ensuring a variety of expression is important so we can have all perspectives represented. By diversity, I believe demographic variety is important, ie. being more inclusive of youth, people of color, LGBT community, gender. I also believe that we should ensure diversity among the different mediums. While I do think that due to the huge value that Berkeley places on the Arts, we have done a great job of ensuring that we have a wonderful array of performing and visual arts, I believe we should assess the number of organizations representing the different mediums and the kind of funding they receive and ensure that we are supporting them equally.