# Tallmadge

In Summit County, a healthy and fully leveraged arts and cultural sector will attract and retain talent to our region, build jobs in the creative sector, add significant value to the education of our community's children, and serve a leading indicator of economic prosperity and impact.

The creative industry in the Akron MSA supports over 17,000 jobs and drives \$1.4 billion in economic activity.

To learn more about the vibrant arts, culture, and environmental sector in Summit County, visit:

ArtsNow.org
SummitLive365.com
akronculturalplan.com

### **Arts and Culture Questionnaire for Summit County Mayoral Candidates**

Below, you will find information and prompts related to important issues that impact the creative sector. ArtsNow respectfully requests that you complete this questionnaire by **5PM on Thursday, April 6th, 2023** so your constituents can learn more about your arts and culture platform. Please respond as thoroughly as possible, as responses will be shared with the public and posted in their entirety online at artsnow.org.

Responses will be published at artsnow.org

Questions/responses begin on the next page.

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#### **ONE: YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ARTS AND CULTURE**

Please give us a sense of your relationship with the arts and culture sector. Keep in mind that our sector is made-up not only of nonprofit organizations, but also artist entrepreneurs and creative businesses and venues.

### **Response Prompt(s):**

- What arts and culture events, performances, or experiences have you attended in the last year?
- What arts/culture organizations or commissions have you supported as a board member, volunteer, donor, or season ticket holder?

Please list cultural groups and experiences, even if they have not taken place locally.

### **Candidate Response: ADAM BOZIC**

Our family is very active in the music community. My wife owns a music studio in Tallmadge that teaches a variety of musical instruments. She has multiple camps, workshops and performances a year. Also, Tallmadge has an amazing organization called Dynamics Community Theatre that has 2-3 wonderful performances a year.

We have had family and friends perform in many productions over the years and we donate yearly. Also, our annual Christmas gift is Playhouse Square Broadway Series tickets. We love to take our kids to the amazing productions in Cleveland.

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#### **TWO: ADVOCACY**

The role of mayor includes in large part being a cheerleader and advocate for your city and the assets that make our communities special. During the process of creating the <a href="Akron/Summit Cultural Plan">Akron/Summit Cultural Plan</a>, we heard loud and clear that residents want an administration that will make the arts and culture a centerpiece of their administration and legacy and who understands the importance of the arts to the city's economic development, tourism, public spaces, vibrancy, cultural brand, and quality of life.

### **Response Prompt(s):**

- As mayor, how will you use your position to strengthen the arts and culture sector in the city?
- Where will arts and culture fall within your priorities?

### **Candidate Response: ADAM BOZIC**

The arts are vitally important in the community. I have three kids that participate in many community arts programs, school choir, band and musicals. My wife is a soprano in the Summit Choral Society. Their Christmas program included Handel's Messiah. It was outstanding!

Tallmadge already has a wonderful arts and culture foundation. We have amazing local bands, events and support. I would love to see more community arts outreach programs to promote our local artists and musicians. The arts are such an integral part of our community and I would love to see it grow.

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#### **THREE: RESOURCES**

A healthy cultural sector requires sustainable funding sources in order to maximize its potential for community impact. We must invest in our cultural hubs and venues. We must investigate and leverage new funding sources, and we must explore new resources for our sector.

### **Response Prompt(s):**

• What leadership would you provide to ensure sustainable funding of the arts and culture sector?

### **Candidate Response: ADAM BOZIC**

I would love to see some of our public spaces be utilized by our community arts programs. We have some vacant buildings and land that would be perfect storage spaces for costuming, artist studios and/or performances. With a combination of a willing community and administration we can definitely look forward to growth in the fine arts.