



To: Arts Action Fund Members

From: Americans for the Arts Action Fund

Date: August 2, 2018

Re: Amy Klobuchar and the Arts, 2018 Candidate for Minnesota U.S. Senate



Name: Amy Klobuchar

Party: Democrat

Occupation: United States Senator from Minnesota

Incumbent: Yes

Years Served: 2007-Present, 11 years

Born: May 25, 1960 (age 58) in Plymouth, Minnesota

Previous Public Offices Held: County Attorney of Hennepin County (1999-2007).

Other Positions: Before seeking public office, Klobuchar worked as a corporate lawyer for Minnesota law firms Dorsey & Whitney and Gray Plant Mooty.

Educational Background: Received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Yale University and her Juris Doctor at the University of Chicago Law School.

Contact Information:

- Campaign Website: <https://www.amyklobuchar.com/>
- Campaign Email: info@amyklobuchar.com
- Campaign Mailing Address: 901 North 3rd Street Minneapolis, MN 55401
- Campaign Phone Number: 612-378-2018

Social Media Platforms:

- Twitter: @amyklobuchar 422K followers
- Facebook: @amyklobuchar 241K followers
- Instagram: @amyklobuchar 8.1K followers

2018 General Campaign Prediction:

- Solid D (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))
- Last General Election: 65% (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))

Personal Arts Background:

- Klobuchar wrote a case study, *Uncovering the Dome* in 1886 about how a \$55 million domed stadium called the Hubert Humphrey Metrodome came to be built in Minneapolis and relates this story to American politics: the shifting coalitions and uncertain outcomes; the scattered interests and chaotic atmosphere; the differing conceptions of what serves the public interest (Source: [Amazon](#)).

Notable Quotes:

- *"Purple reigns in Minnesota today! A year after his untimely death, we remember Prince by celebrating the incredible music he left us, the artistic integrity he stood for, and, in a tribute to his iconic sense of style, all things purple. The world is a whole lot cooler because Prince was in it -and a whole lot sadder now that he's gone. He touched our hearts, opened our minds, and made us want to dance. He still does. He always will."* – Amy Klobuchar statement on the anniversary of Prince's death made on April 21, 2017. (Source: [News Article](#))

Arts Action Fund Congressional Report Card:

- [2016 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs Up
- [2014 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs up
- [2012 Congressional Report Card](#): D

Arts Action Fund PAC support this election cycle as of 8-2-18:

- \$1,000 on 5/25/2018

Examples of Actions on the Arts

- **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act:**
 - Voted no on *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* (HR 1) sponsored by Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) which would double the standard deduction limiting specific incentives for income tax deductions of gifts to charity, becoming severely limited to only the top five percent of taxpayers who itemize their deductions. The Senate voted 51 to 48 on December 13, 2017 to pass the bill in a party-line vote. (Source: [New York Times](#))
- **Every Student Achieves Act:**
 - Voted yes on S.1177—Senate bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, titled *Every Child Achieves Act* (ECAA) on July 16, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
 - Voted yes on S.1177—Final legislation to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, now called the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), replacing No Child Left Behind on December 9, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))

- **2010 Transportation Appropriations Bill:**
 - Voted yes on a motion to table an amendment offered by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) to prohibit Transportation Enhancement funds in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2012 from being used on “lower-priority projects,” such as transportation museums, historic preservation and public art projects. (Source: [2012 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))

- **Letters:**
 - Cosigned a “Dear Colleague” letter on March 16, 2018, asking Senate appropriators to fund the NEA and NEH at no less than \$155 million in FY 2019. The letter was led by late Representative Louise Slaughter. (Source: [Arts Action Fund](#))
 - Cosigned yes on a “Dear Colleague” letter on March 16, 2016, asking Senate appropriators to fund the NEA and NEH at no less than \$149.8 million in FY 2017. The letter was led by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM). (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
 - Cosigned yes on a "Dear Colleague" letter on March 17, 2016, asking Senate appropriators to support "robust" funding for the Office of Museum Services in FY 2017. The letter was led by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY). (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
 - Cosigned yes on a "Dear Colleague" letter on March 27, 2015, asking Senate appropriators to support "robust" funding for the Office of Museum Services in FY 2016. The letter was led by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY). (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))

Arts Membership:

- Klobuchar has been a member in the Senate Cultural Caucus since 2012. She is currently serving as a member in the 115th Congress. There are 34 members and the list is maintained by office of Caucus Co-Chairs, Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) (Source: [Americans for the Arts](#)).

Information on the Arts and the Economy in Minnesota:

- In Minnesota, arts and culture was a \$11.4 billion industry—equivalent to 3.5 percent of the state economy—in 2015. There were a total of 98,285 arts and culture industry jobs.¹
- A 2017 analysis of Dun & Bradstreet data found 13,039 businesses employed 61,321 people in Minnesota involved in the creation or distribution of the arts—4.02 percent of all businesses and 1.79 percent of all employees.²

Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts:

- Senator Klobuchar, the budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was cut in half during the 1990s. With its current funding of \$153 million, the NEA spends just 47 cents per

¹Arts and cultural production are defined as those industries that produce arts and culture related commodities and generally follow the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). Employment estimates for ACP-related industries are for “direct” employment. [Arts and Culture Production Satellite Account](#) (ACPSA), 2015; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and National Endowment for the Arts, 2018.

²Findings count active U.S. businesses registered with Duns & Bradstreet in the following categories: museums and collections; performing arts; visual art/photography; film, radio, and television; design and publishing; schools and services. [Creative Industries: Business & Employment in the Arts](#), Americans for the Arts, 2017.

American—half the cost of a pack of gum. Would you support a plan to increase federal arts funding to the NEA to \$1 per American, so that arts organizations in your state or district can present even more accessible arts programs for all its residents?

- With the implementation of *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), states now have more responsibility for providing a well-rounded education – including the arts. Would you support full funding (\$1.6 billion) of the Well-Rounded Education provisions of ESSA, including data collection of arts education programs by the states and advocating for the integration of the arts into STEM education?
- Nonprofit arts organizations are charities, and on average, 25 percent of their annual budgets rely on donations made by individual taxpayers to serve the public good. The charitable tax deduction incentive is currently only available to individuals who itemize their tax returns. Would you support a Universal Charitable Deduction, so all taxpayers have the incentive to donate?

About ArtsVote2018:

- The mission of ArtsVote2018 is to advance the role of arts in the 2018 midterm elections by providing arts advocates, arts leaders, elected officials, and media with needed information to effectively advocate for the arts.