



To: Arts Action Fund Members
From: Americans for the Arts Action Fund
Date: August 2, 2018
Re: Phil Bredesen and the Arts, 2018 Candidate for Tennessee U.S. Senate



Name: Phil Bredesen
Party: Democrat
Occupation: 48th Governor of Tennessee (2003-2011)
Incumbent: No. Open seat held by Senator Lamar Alexander (R).
Born: November 21, 1943 (age 74), Oceanport, New Jersey.
Previous Public Offices Held: 66th Mayor of Nashville (1991-1999).
Other Positions: In 1968, Bredesen worked for the campaign of Minnesota Senator Eugene McCarthy, who was seeking the Democratic presidential nomination. Bredesen launched his first political campaign in 1969, when he ran for the Massachusetts State Senate. Bredesen joined pharmaceutical firm G.D. Searle & Company in 1971. Bredesen founded HealthAmerica Corp., an insurance company.
Educational Background: Received his Bachelor of Arts in Physics from Harvard University.

Contact Information:

- Website: <https://www.bredesen.com/>
- Campaign Email: info@bredesen.us
- Campaign Mailing Address: Post Office Box 92010 Nashville, TN 37209
- Campaign Phone Number: 833-744-5486

Social Media Platforms:

- Facebook: @BredesenforSenate 26.5k followers
- Twitter: @PhilBredesen 12.7k followers
- Instagram: @Bredesenforsenate 1.4k followers

2018 General Campaign Prediction:

- Toss Up (Source: [Cooks Political Report](#))

Personal Arts Background:

- Bredesen and his wife have founded several non-profit humanitarian organizations including: I'm a founding member of Nashville's Table, a nonprofit group that collects discarded food from local restaurants and distributes it to the city's homeless population. I also founded the Land Trust for Tennessee, a nonprofit organization that works statewide to preserve open space and traditional family farms. Andrea is founder and president of You Have the Power - Know How to Use It, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness about crime and justice issues (Source: [Vote Smart](#)).

Notable Arts Quotes:

- *"Before serving as Tennessee's governor, I served as mayor of Nashville from 1991 to 1999, working with community leaders to help chart a course that made Music City U.S.A. one of the best places in America to live, work and raise a family. Among other accomplishments, we invested nearly \$500 million to build new schools and hire new teachers. We developed a state-of-the-art library system, spurred downtown redevelopment, expanded the city's park system and drove down the crime rate. During this period, Nashville saw record economic growth by recruiting high-quality jobs and companies such as Dell Computer Corp. and HCA Inc..."* - Bredesen's statement on his time severing as Governor (Source: [My Story](#)).

Examples of Actions on the Arts: N/A

Arts Membership: N/A

Stance on Issues:

- **Education:**
 - Under Bredesen's leadership as governor, Tennessee made public education a top priority. Working with the legislature, he improved teacher pay and expanded early childhood education. He created the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation, a statewide expansion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, to provide free books to children from birth to age five. In the U.S. Senate, Phil will use his decades of experience in K-12 and higher education to push policies that support states and strengthen America's public schools (Source: [Bredesen.com](#)).

Information on the Arts and the Economy in Tennessee:

- In Tennessee, arts and culture was a \$13.3 billion industry—equivalent to 4.2 percent of the state economy—in 2015. There were a total of 84,663 arts and culture industry jobs.¹

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.

- A 2017 analysis of Dun & Bradstreet data found 10,518 businesses employed 54,587 people in Tennessee involved in the creation or distribution of the arts—3.63 percent of all businesses and 1.63 percent of all employees.²

Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts:

- Governor Bredesen, what is your personal background and experience in the arts?
- 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.

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.