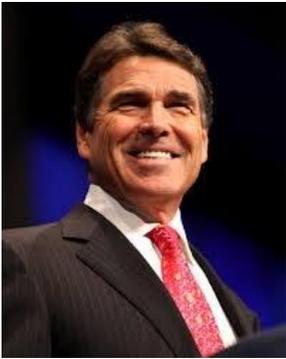




To: New Hampshire Arts Advocates
From: Americans for the Arts Action Fund
Date: 21 July 2015
Re: Rick Perry and the Arts



Name: Rick Perry
Party: Republican
Born: 4 March 1950; Haskell, Texas
Previous Public Offices Held: Governor of Texas- 2000-2015; Lieutenant Governor of Texas- 1999-2000; Commissioner of Agriculture of Texas- 1991-1999; Texas House of Representatives , 64th District- 1985-1991
Other Jobs Held: Pilot with the U.S. Air Force; Cotton Farmer
Educational Background: B.A. in Animal Science, Texas A&M University



2016 Presidential Campaign Information:

Declaration Location: Addison Airport near Dallas, Texas; June 4, 2015
Campaign Website: <https://rickperry.org/>
Campaign Email: info@rickperry.org
Headquarters Address: Unlisted

Headquarters Phone: Unlisted
Campaign Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GovernorPerry?fref=ts>
Campaign Twitter: [@GovernorPerry](https://twitter.com/GovernorPerry) 299,000 Followers

Positions on the Arts

Personal Arts Background

- Perry, while attending Texas A&M was one of 5 students elected to be an Aggie “Yell Leader”, the leader directs the crowd at sporting events in cheers for the athletic teams. It is honor at Texas A&M to be elected to that position. (Sources: [Business Insider](#), [CNN](#))
- Perry also has taken an interest in the arts scene. During a business roundtable in Des Moines Monday, the governor highlighted an article that appeared in that day’s Register, describing efforts by state officials to promote cultural centers throughout Iowa. (Source: [MSNBC](#))

Notable Quotes

- *"This creative and cultural boom is not the product of a government grant program, but a result of your policies that have created a decade of economic expansion. As Governor, I have made economic growth my signature initiative. But I recognize that job creation is not the answer to every ill. In fact, in some respects, it has brought challenges to our state."* (Source: Rick Perry 2015 Farewell Speech)
- *"The cultural arts, by and large, that's not what people think about the Republican party,"* said Perry. *"It doesn't need to be the first thing, but it needs to be something where people think, you know what, because of their policies, they make the quality of life better."* (Source: [MSNBC](#))
- *"Such efforts to encourage development of creative industries are essential to making Texas the best place in the nation to live. It is in our state's best interests to foster and support this thriving industry because of its capability to enrich our communities and stimulate economic development. The availability of cultural resources and opportunities helps attract jobs and companies to Texas, and bolsters the continued growth and prosperity of our state."* (Source: [Texas Cultural Trust](#))
- *"Support for arts development is becoming increasingly important as jobs and revenue from creative industries continue to rise on a national scale, and it is in Texas' best economic interests to be as competitive as possible to keep up with this growth".* (Source: [Texas Cultural Trust](#))

Policy Views on the Arts and Education

- Perry does not support Common Core and believes K-12 standards should be left up to individual states to decide. Perry is also a supporter of school choice. (Source: [Forbes](#))
- Texas has education standards of the Fine Arts including: Dance, Art, Music, Theatre, Technical Theatre, and Musical Theater. (Source: [Texas Department of Education](#))
- Funding for arts organizations in Texas, which include: The Texas Commission on the Arts, Texans for the Arts, and Texas Cultural Trust for the fiscal year 2014 was \$5,582,228 which is a +1.6% increase from the prior year. (Source: [Americans for the Arts](#))

Examples of Actions on the Arts

- As Governor, Perry hasn't always been the strongest supporter of arts funding. Where he has supported the arts is in the business sector through business incentives, Perry has supported film incentives to lure movie production companies to Texas. (Source: [The Caller Times](#))
- Perry has also supported incentives for the video game industry to move to Texas with has led to added revenue to the state's economy and the jobs. (Source: [The Texas Tribune](#))
- *"To further encourage the growth of the arts industry, last year I signed a \$22 million film incentive bill to help reverse the export of Texas filmmaking talent. This brings jobs and economic activity to our cities and makes the diverse and beautiful images of Texas more prominent in motion pictures."* (Source: [Texas Cultural Trust](#))
- Perry signed a law to protect the display of large mezuzahs in Texas. (Source: [Tablet](#))
- *"With major investments in jobs come major investments in the cultural arts. Dallas is home to the Meyerson Symphony Center; the AT&T Performing Arts Center. The American Film Institute moved its headquarters from California to Dallas. The Nasher Sculpture center relocated to Dallas in 2003. The Perot Museum of Nature and Science opened there in 2012. The largest cultural arts district in the country, at 68 acres, is in Dallas, Texas. Fort Worth, home to a new museum of modern art, a revitalized Kimbell Art Museum, and the Bass Performing Hall, all a part of the nation's third largest cultural district. And right here in Austin, we now have a museum of modern art, a performing arts facility, and the largest film and music festival in the world. As well as, I might add, the only Formula One race in the United States. Seventy-five miles south of here, Madam Secretary, your hometown San Antonio has that new performing arts facility. And tonight, in Houston, Texas—your hometown, Dean—there are more theater seats available [than] anywhere this side of Broadway."* (Source: Rick Perry 2015 Farewell Speech)

Arts and the Economy in Texas

- As of 2012 the economic impact of the arts in Texas is \$4.6 billion in taxable sales that generate \$290.1 million in state revenue. (Source: [Texas Cultural Trust](#))
- Since 2002, the arts impact on the state economy has grown steadily by 12.6 percent. (Source: [Texas Cultural Trust](#))
- The arts industry has roughly 10,000 businesses that employ over 110,000 individuals. (Source: [Texas Cultural Trust](#))
- The average salary for someone in the arts industry was \$70,000 annually. (Source: [Texas Cultural Trust](#))
 - The film industry contributes \$525 million to the economy. (Source: [The Caller Times](#))
- The video game industry contributes \$177 million to the economy. (Source: [The Caller Times](#))

Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts

- Governor, you have said in the past, that the states should make their own decisions as it comes to education curriculum. As President, what would your administration's position be for

arts education in the classroom, and what specific ways would you encourage states to add arts education to be a part of the daily curriculum?

- Governor, being a graduate of Texas A&M and home to the famous Fightn' Texas Aggie Band, how do you think music influences our children, and do you feel that music education in the schools creates more successful students?
- The arts industry in your state has around a \$4.6 billion dollar impact. How crucial for the economy is it to have a strong and robust arts industry, and what could you do as President to increase its impact?

DRAFT