

Jonathan Mitchell | District 36

1. How do you personally participate in the arts and culture both in Houston and when you travel?

I support the arts the same way most working families do, by actually participating in them. I attend live concerts, local events, and cultural festivals when my schedule allows. I play some music myself, so music and creative expression are already part of my life. When I travel for work, I make a point to experience local culture, whether that's live music, museums, or community events. I believe arts and culture are strongest when they are original and community driven.

2. Would you be willing to support Community Project Funding requests specifically for arts-related appropriations?

I would, when they are local, transparent, and accountable. If funding is requested for arts projects that genuinely serve the community, support local artists, create jobs, or provide educational value, especially for the youth, I'm open to supporting them. What I won't support is wasteful spending, vanity projects, or funding that benefits officials or executives more than the actual community.

3. Would you support changing the name of the Donald J. Trump Kennedy Center back to John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts?

No. I don't care what the building is called. Changing names doesn't improve access to the arts, doesn't help artists, and doesn't solve a single real problem facing working Americans. Congress has far more important things to focus on. I'm focused on helping my constituents, and a name change doesn't help or benefit them in any meaningful way.

4. Would you support continued funding at the 2024 level or higher for the National Endowment to the Arts?

I would support funding that is justified, efficient, and clearly benefits communities, especially at the local level. Any continued or increased funding needs oversight to ensure taxpayer dollars are going to artists, educators, and community programs,

not wasteful government overhead.

5. How would you support arts in your Congressional District?

By supporting policies that allow local arts to grow naturally through community grants, education programs, and partnerships with schools and local organizations. I believe the arts thrive best when communities have the freedom and resources to support them locally, not under excessive federal oversight. My focus would be on access, education, and local impact.

6. Would you support restoring full funding to National Public Radio and PBS?

I'm open to discussions, but funding should be evaluated the same way as any other taxpayer expense, based on relevance, transparency, and public benefit. If funding exists, it should prioritize educational programming and public service content, not partisan or ideological agendas.