

# CREATE THE OTE 2024

with CT ARTS ALLIANCE

## 2024 LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE ARTS SURVEY

**You Name:** Holly Cheeseman

**What office and district are you a candidate for?**

Office: House                      District:        37

**1. Do you have a connection to the arts? If so, please share.**

Former executive director of Niantic Children's Museum

**2. Can you share an arts experience that has impacted your life or the lives of your family members?**

The first Shakespeare play I ever saw -A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Stratford CT theater. I was hooked on Shakespeare and live theater.

**3. The Connecticut legislature hosts the Arts, Culture, and Tourism Caucus, a bipartisan group of legislators who champion state support for the arts community**

***If elected (or re-elected), will you join (or rejoin) the Caucus?***

I have been an active member and will definitely continue if/when re-elected.

**4. Studies have shown that arts and culture can deliver a 3 to 1 return on investment at a minimum if adequately funded. Despite this, Connecticut has historically under invested state funds in the arts and lags the rest of the nation in recognizing that arts generate tax revenue and support a thriving economy.**

***If elected (or re-elected), will you support increased investment of state funds in arts and culture?***

Yes, the arts, culture and tourism sector is a vital and vibrant part of the CT economy. Investment has a great ROI for the state.

**5. Are there any other ways that you'd like to convey to voters how you have been supportive of the arts?**

I take full advantage of the cultural events on offer, attending shows and productions on a regular basis at the Garde Arts Center, Goodspeed Playhouse, The Kate, Ivoryton Theater. As executive director of the Niantic Children's Museum, I joined and participated in the Cultural Coalition of Southeastern CT.