

# CREATE THE OTE 2024

with CT ARTS ALLIANCE

## 2024 LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE ARTS SURVEY

**You Name:** Ron Napoli

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

Office: House                      District: 73

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

Yes. As a public school teacher in Waterbury, I have had many students who contain a passion for the arts. In fact when the students need a teacher advisor for an after school theater arts program. As the lead teacher in that program, immediately I noticed the positive impact the arts had on our students. I believe we need to invest in programs that support the arts so more students could be exposed to this culture.

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

As I mentioned above, the years I spent as the Lead Teacher in the Theater Arts Program allowed me to see the benefits of introducing students to culture and art.

**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?***

Yes. It is a great caucus and I work very close with the leaders and members.

**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. For every dollar we invest in the arts and culture we get multiple dollars back in return. These investments are economic drivers for our state.

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

As the House Bonding Chairman - I put an additional \$10M in the DECD Good to Great Grant that is for upgrades to museums. As legislator, I will continue to be an advocate for the investments in arts, culture and tourism.