

Notice of City Measure Election

26-146

SEL 802

rev 1/12 ORS 250.035, 250.041, 250.275, 250.285, 254.095, 254.465

City and Notice Information

Notice is hereby given on August 30, 2012, **2012**, that a measure election will be held in

City of Portland

Oregon on November 6th

, **2012**.

Name of City or Cities

Date of Election

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the city's voters:

Caption 10 words

Restore School Arts, Music Education; Fund Arts through Limited Tax.

Question 20 words

Shall Portland restore arts, music for schools and fund arts through income tax of 35 dollars per year?

Summary 175 words

This measure creates a limited income tax of \$35 for each adult income-earning Portland resident. Individuals in households below federal poverty level pay no tax.

Tax can only be used for:

- Arts and Music Teachers: Funds to hire arts and music teachers for kindergarten through 5th grade students at local public schools attended by Portland students. Distribution of funds based on school enrollment.
- Arts Access: Remaining funds for grants to nonprofit arts organizations, other nonprofits and schools. Will fund grants to provide high-quality arts access for kindergarten through 12th grade students and to make arts, culture experiences available to underserved communities. Funds administered by Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC).

Accountability measures include:

- Administrative costs are capped.
- Expenditures subject to oversight by citizen committee.
- Independent financial audits of RACC and School District expenditures.

Estimated funds raised will be \$12 million annually. The tax is effective beginning with 2012 tax year, with payment due when state taxes are due.

The following authorized city official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete, which includes publication of notice and the completion of the ballot title challenge process.

Signature of Authorized City Official not required to be notarized

Date Signed mm/dd/yy

Printed Name of Authorized City Official

Title

Lavonne Griffen-Valade

8/27/12

City Auditor

MEASURE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Required for all Measures Submitted with Multnomah County Elections

ELECTION DATE November 6, 2012	MEASURE NUMBER 26-146	
BALLOT TITLE CAPTION Restore School Arts, Music Education; Fund Arts through Limited Tax		
NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT Mayor Sam Adams		
NAME OF JURISDICTION PERSON REPRESENTS City of Portland		
E-MAIL mayorsam@portlandoregon.gov	TELEPHONE NUMBER 503-823-4120	FAX NUMBER 503-823-3588

Please use space below or attach text on a separate sheet of paper.

See attached.

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WORD/NUMBER COUNT TOTAL (500 word/number limit) 402


SIGNATURE OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT

8/29/12
DATE

BACKGROUND

Research shows that art and music are an essential part of a basic curriculum for students, especially in the elementary school years. Studies link access to arts education to improved attendance, increased participation in math and science, higher test scores, increased graduation rates and college admittance. The impact is even greater among low-income students and students of color.

Access to arts education for public school students in the City of Portland has declined steeply. For example, over the last five years Parkrose and Centennial School Districts have cut their art and music teaching staff by half. Portland Public Schools has dropped all arts instruction in 22 schools in just two years.

- In 2011, 18% of Portland elementary schools provide art instruction compared to 83% nationally.
- 58% of Portland elementary schools provide music instruction compared to 94% nationally.
- 28% of all Portland schools provide no arts instruction of any kind including music, drama, dance or visual arts. This is compared to just 3% of schools nationally.
- There are 11,596 Portland children attending schools that do not have any art, dance, drama, or music instruction.

HOW MEASURE 26-146 WORKS

The Arts Education and Access Fund will first go to all schools that serve Portland students within the six Portland school districts (Centennial, David Douglas, Parkrose, Portland Public, Reynolds, and Riverdale) to pay for certified arts education teachers for Kindergarten through 5th grade (K-5). Districts will receive the funds required to hire and maintain one certified arts teacher per every 500 students so that every K-5 student within the City of Portland will have access to arts education.

Remaining funds will be awarded as grants to non-profit organizations and schools to provide high-quality arts access for Kindergarten through 12th grade students and to make arts and culture experiences available to underserved communities. Administered by the Regional Arts & Culture Council, grants will be made to qualifying Portland-based non-profit arts organizations that demonstrate artistic excellence, provide service to the community, show administrative and fiscal competence and provide a wide range of high quality arts programs to the public. Grants will also be awarded to schools and non-profits that provide arts programs specifically for schoolchildren and underserved communities.

Measure 26-146 will generate the revenue to support the Arts Education and Access Fund through an income tax of \$35 per adult, income-earning resident of Portland. Residents living in households at or below the federal poverty limit will be exempt: they will not pay this tax.

ACCOUNTABILITY

An Independent Citizen Oversight committee that is representative of the City's diverse communities will be formed to annually review Fund expenditures and report the impact of the Arts Education and Access Fund to the public. Audits will be made available to the public annually.

After the expenditure of capped start-up costs, administrative costs of this Fund are limited to 5 percent or less of Gross Revenues over a five year period.