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COMPLETE

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Q1

NAME:

Judy Kumar

Q2

District 9

COUNCIL DISTRICT

Q3

YOU AND THE ARTS Give us a sense about your relationship with the arts (Some ideas to consider) • What art form or cultural organization do you particularly enjoy? • Are your family members involved in the arts? • Share favorite cultural experience in the last two years? • What virtual arts programs have you and your family enjoyed during the pandemic?

Raised by a concert pianist/composer/painter in Washington, DC ensured that arts in all forms would be near and dear to me. My sister is an award winning composer and member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and my brother and I both have a background in theatre.

Two of my favorite events were the Public Works production of The Winter's Tale and the Dallas Opera production of The Magic Flute. I've also enjoyed going to the various live music performances in Deep Ellum, as well as Arts Exhibits at the Dallas Museum of Art.

Q4

ADVOCACY The support of our elected City leaders is important to ensuring arts and culture remain a priority at City Hall and part of the civic dialogue. **QUESTION:** How have you advocated for the arts community and/or how will you do that going forward?

Aside from collecting art from up and coming artists, during my campaign I have publicly committed to supporting DACAC as I believe Arts are key to safety, economic success of communities, and the development and retention of students.

Q5

SUPPORT & RECOVERY Prior to COVID, the Dallas creative economy was on track to have an economic impact surpassing \$1B a year, a vital business sector. The pandemic derailed that momentum. Arts facilities were the first to close and will be among the last to reopen at full capacity. The city's nonprofit arts and cultural community has lost more than \$95M and over 1,000 jobs, and cultural tourism has virtually stopped. City support has been critical to keeping these institutions alive. Even in a tough budget year, this need remains. **QUESTION:** Will you work to see that City support continues and how will you ensure arts and culture play a key role in the Dallas economic recovery?

The reputation of Dallas has taken a beating this past year. Arts resurgence will play a critical role in restoring the vibrancy, prosperity and reputation of Dallas.

I would like to promote a series of arts fairs at various points of White Rock Lake.

I would also champion the creation of affordable arts studios in vacant stores such as SunFresh, and affordable housing for artists. I have seen first-hand how successful these programs are at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, VA and the Lofts in Minneapolis.

Q6

EQUITY AND NEIGHBORHOODS The top pillar of the Dallas Cultural Plan is Equity, with a goal of ensuring arts and culture are accessible in communities that have been historically underserved. And we know when arts are purposefully embedded in the community, they can fight urban blight and create vibrant neighborhoods. **QUESTION:** How will you keep the focus on equitable access to the arts; and specifically where and how would you like to see art used to address challenges in your City Council District. (Some ideas to consider)• Murals• Underpass transformation• More opportunities for ALAANA artists in underserved communities• Popup cultural centers• Neighborhood performances• Economic incentives for developers to create affordable galleries, workshop spaces and artists' housing

Each of the ideas outlined by DACAC are initiatives that I would wholeheartedly support, especially if conducted by students and senior citizens in low income neighborhoods. Funding should also be provided to expand these art forms among our Latino, Asian, and other immigrant communities:

- Murals
 - Underpass transformation
 - More opportunities for ALAANA artists in underserved communities
 - Popup cultural centers
 - Neighborhood performances
 - Economic incentives for developers to create affordable galleries, workshop spaces and artists housing.
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Q7

PARTICIPATION The Dallas arts and cultural community is diverse and growing and contains a range of genres, ethnicities, locations and more. Every group, especially those serving your district, is honored when elected officials attend a program, visit our organizations, or even stop by a monthly DACAC meeting to say hello. **QUESTION:** Will you commit to attending local programs (performances, exhibitions, classes) or meeting with a Dallas arts organization on a regular basis? What would that look like?

It would be my great pleasure to attend an event each week. Indeed, that would be in keeping with my pre-Covid habits, as my husband and I enjoy going to art galleries, attending classical music performances or the theatre, as well as going to various live music clubs in Deep Ellum.

I would also be happy to set aside time on a monthly basis to meet with different Arts organizations.
