

Answers by - Mike Lake Democratic Candidate for Lieutenant Governor

Questions for Lieutenant Governor Candidates:

(Note: Questions 1-3 can be answered with a yes or no, but please feel free to elaborate beyond a one word answer)

1. As Lt. Governor, would you commit to an open door policy for the Massachusetts artists community and the creative sector?

Yes—the creative sector has proven its value—from rejuvenating neighborhoods to strengthening local economies. We need to support this sector and strengthen the ecosystem for more creative industries to start and flourish.

2. Lt. Governors of our state have a great tradition of promoting the governor's policies throughout the state. If elected, would you advise the governor to make the promotion and support of our state's third largest economic sector, the creative economy, a top priority for your office? (The creative economy includes artists of all disciplines, arts and culture, the film sector, etc.)

Yes, as I said above, I believe that the creative sector is a building block for communities and economies. I also believe that Massachusetts should better leverage the opportunities we have for more collaboration between the creative sector and other sectors like high tech to build a stronger video gaming industry.

3. The Lt. Governor sits on the Governor's Council, a clear sign that our state values his or her involvement in matters of justice. As Lt. Governor, would you commit your office to promoting justice for all workers, including artists of all disciplines, those involved in the arts, culture, the creative economy, and those who create intellectual property?

Yes, the platform on which I have been running this entire campaign is the Massachusetts Promise—at its core, it is about social and economic justice.

4. Is there anything else you would like to share in regards to your policy and/or platforms that directly impacts artists of all disciplines and by extension the arts, culture, and creative economy communities?

I am proud to have initiated and facilitated the efforts to establish Innovation

Week in Massachusetts—a proclamation of Governor Deval Patrick that brought together creative industries to recognize their value to our Commonwealth, celebrate their work, collaborate and explore new opportunities. As the only candidate who has worked with cities around the world to resolve local challenges, I have studied in both the academic and applied sense the impact of the creative class. I will bring to this office not only a passion for the creative sector, but an understanding unparalleled in this race and an appreciation for what we already have in Massachusetts as well as all the opportunities we still have to capture.