

**He mea nui ngā toi mō te hāpori kaha, taurikura hoki.  
Arts matter for strong and prosperous communities.**

**Vote** in this year's local elections.

Your local council has a huge influence on arts and cultural wellbeing in your community. **Want to have your say?** We've created a quick five-day action plan to help you kick things off.

### Day 1

#### **Thinking caps on – what do the arts mean to you, your whānau and your community?**

What kinds of things matter to you and those around you? Is your city, town, neighbourhood or street buzzing with the arts? Are you happy with what you're seeing, hearing and feeling? Jot some ideas down. Need some inspiration? Check out what people have said for Arts Month: [artsmonth.co.nz](http://artsmonth.co.nz)

### Day 2

#### **Time to explore – what matters to your local candidates?**

There are lots of ways to find out what's important to candidates when it comes to the arts. You can read the profile booklet that came with your voting papers, attend a local 'meet the candidates' hui or have a look at our new favourite tool, Policy Local: [policylocal.thespinoff.co.nz](http://policylocal.thespinoff.co.nz) – there's a section that lets you compare candidates' Recreation and Culture priorities – cool, huh?

### Day 3

#### **He pātai tāu – what do you want to ask your candidates?**

With your ideas from Day 1's musings, create one or two (or more!) questions for your local candidates. Open-ended ones are good – they could be around specific issues or bigger visions, around making, presenting or experiencing the arts; anything you like. Now you've got some questions, feel free to leap ahead!

### Day 4

#### **Speak up – ask candidates your arts questions**

In our modern connected age there are lots of ways to reach candidates – they're looking for your vote after all. Google them, look for flyers in your mailbox, search for them on social media, call them up – then ask them your questions. You'll often find contact details in the profile booklet, or have a look at the Policy Local site. If they're paying attention, you'll get an answer pretty fast.

### Day 5

#### **Kia kaha ki te pōti – vote!**

Whether you like what they say, or not, make sure you fill out your voting papers early. They need to be in the hands of your local electoral officer no later than 12 noon on Saturday, 12 October. Just to be on the safe side, **we'll be posting ours by Tuesday, 8 October** – make it your own personal voting day! (And treat yourself for helping to make a difference for the arts in Aotearoa.)

To find out more, visit [www.vote.nz](http://www.vote.nz) or [www.lgnz.co.nz/vote2019](http://www.lgnz.co.nz/vote2019)