

What is your connection with the arts and how have you participated in the arts community?

- I've been in the arts for almost 15 years. My background includes roles across the areas of creation, development, production, education, and support. I've served as the Communications Director for the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America, a 501c3 organization which nearly doubled its membership during my tenure.
- I have been active in developing new ideas and systems for creatives, from early utilization of Twitter for promotional events to convention programs and business training.
- I've been heavily involved in working with outside organizations, including DARPA, PBS, NASA, the White House, the Atlantic Council, the Finnish government, and international organizations and commissions to promote artists and creative-industry professionals. These connections have provided creative support to military, corporate, nonprofit, and governmental interests.
- I've served as a mentor for arts students, a panelist and workshop leader for conventions and conferences, and a judge/juror for arts awards. I've been a guest at writing and gaming conventions.
- On a personal level, I'm a published author and editor, with published works including short stories, anthologies, nonfiction, creative nonfiction, academic publications, tabletop roleplaying games, educational material, and web copy. I also make and sell jewelry, and have recently begun selling watercolor, acrylic, and resin work.

What skills, knowledge, and approach would you bring to the Arts Commission?

- Promotional experience
- Educational material and program development
- Community organization
- Communications
- Nonprofit and small business experience

How would your involvement help mobilize the arts community and arts supporters to elevate the arts in Snohomish County?

- I have extensive experience in organizing and promoting at a community level, as well as in working with educational materials and initiatives. I would love to bring that experience to support the arts in Snohomish County.

Specify your main area of interest in the arts:

- Literary Arts or Visual Arts

List past or present art organization affiliations.

- Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America (past)

List two references and their contact information.

- Nathan Heiss, nateheiss@yahoo.com

Include other information you feel is relevant to your application.

- I'm a passionate advocate for the arts to provide training and education for artists in areas of business development and management, as well as support for disadvantaged young artists who may not have the opportunity to participate in the arts otherwise. I am active in the Pacific Northwest publishing and gaming communities, including speaking at Digipen and local libraries.