

## For Immediate Release:

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## Mayoral Candidate Forum Moves to Mary Jane Teall Theater

The Arts Council today announced that it is moving its Feb. 12 Mayoral Candidate Forum to Century II's Mary Jane Teall Theater to accommodate a larger audience. The forum, which was originally scheduled to take place in Century II's Meeting Rooms 101AB, will start at 6 p.m. Doors will open at 5:15 p.m. for a reception. All activities are free and open to the public. Century II is located at 225 W. Douglas.

"We have been very encouraged by the feedback we've received from the community since the Mayoral Candidate Forum was announced," said Arts Council President Arlen Hamilton. "It became clear to us very quickly that the room wasn't going to be big enough for our anticipated crowd. Thankfully, that was a good problem that could be remedied and a larger room at Century II was available."

All 10 mayoral candidates have been invited to participate in the forum to answer questions from Arts Council members and other arts organizations about city government's role in supporting the arts and implementing a comprehensive cultural plan. Questions will allow candidates to share their knowledge and level of support for arts and culture in Wichita. The League of Women Voters will be time keepers.

The Arts Council encourages people who attend the forum to wear red to show their unified support of the arts. The color red is also significant because it's the primary color in Wichita's flag.

The Mayoral Candidate Forum is intended to be a resource for voters who are interested in finding out where candidates stand on arts and culture issues that impact Wichita. The Arts Council won't be endorsing candidates in the local primary or general elections.

*Since 1999, The Arts Council, which is housed at CityArts, has worked in partnership with the City of Wichita to achieve its mission of advancing and promoting arts and culture in the Wichita community through advocacy, leadership, education and collaboration. The Arts Council slogan "We Make Art Happen" reinforces the group's commitment to the business side of the arts and spreading the word that arts and culture is a \$66.2 million industry in Wichita that creates 2,006 jobs and generates \$6.5 million in local/state government revenue. To learn more about the value of the arts to the Wichita community, visit [WichitaArts.com](http://WichitaArts.com).*