



Jen Hsieh  
Partner  
Sorry You're Happy

May 24, 2013

General Issues Committee  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West  
Hamilton Ontario L8P 4Y5

Dear Chair and Members of the General Issues Committee,

I'm writing in support of the Arts Investment Funding Model being presented by the Hamilton Arts Advisory Commission on June 5, 2013.

I encourage the Committee Chair and Members to endorse the recommendations outlined in the "Strategic Municipal Investment in the Arts" by the Arts Funding Task Force. Having read the draft proposal, I believe it takes into serious consideration the kind of support I feel is required in the Hamilton arts community. I am especially delighted that the proposal recognizes the need for support for both individual creatives and arts businesses. The proposed framework would expand the base of eligible applicants for new and exciting projects as well as foster growth for small arts businesses, which is particularly important to me as a creative business owner.

As a resident of Kirkendall (Ward 1), I run an art licensing and surface design studio with my husband, Kyle Reed. Our company, Sorry You're Happy, has worked with clients such as *3M Post-It*, *Oopsy Daisy (Fine Art for Kids)*, and *The Madison Park Group, Inc.* I also work as an illustrator with both Canadian and international clients, including *Chatelaine*, *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, and *Visa*. I have also exhibited as an artist in Hamilton, Toronto, and Calgary. As a creative professional, art and culture are pivotal to my life as a Hamiltonian.

By increasing investment in its arts community, Hamilton will demonstrate that celebrating and encouraging the arts is vital to a flourishing, prosperous city.

Thank you for taking the time to read my support of the Arts Investment Funding Model.

Sincerely,

Jen Hsieh