



# CITY OF SCRANTON

340 North Washington Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503 | (570) 348-4101 | [www.scrantonpa.gov](http://www.scrantonpa.gov)

September 17, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Scranton Awards Nearly \$350,000 in ARPA Grants for Local Arts Groups**

SCRANTON, PA. – The City of Scranton awarded a total of \$346,417 in grants for 19 visual and performing artists and arts organizations on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024. Grants were offered as part of the City’s \$68.7 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

“We’re thankful for the chance to help bridge the funding gap for these artists as they continue to recover from the pandemic,” Mayor Paige G. Cagnetti said at the Everhart Museum, 1901 Mulberry St., Scranton. “The arts are a wonderful way to bring people together, and they play an important role in making Scranton a great place to live and to visit.”

Based on economic reports and data specific to northeastern Pennsylvania, the program was designed to aid artists and arts organizations that suffered employment losses caused by the pandemic. Those groups included independent artists, writers, and performers; theater companies and dinner theaters; musical groups and artists; and dance companies. Preference was given to entities based in Scranton.

Eligible organizations had to provide evidence of their employment numbers and their operation prior to the start of the pandemic in March 2020.

Grant recipients and the funding they will receive, in alphabetical order, are:

- Arcadia Chorale, \$16,774
- Ballet Theatre of Scranton, \$28,412
- Christopher Capozza, \$6,774
- The Dishonest Fiddlers, \$40,100
- Gregory Kondrat, \$8,387
- Jacob Cole, \$8,387
- Jeannine Luby, \$5,050
- Kouvaris Bibbins, \$8,387
- Marko Marcinko, \$8,548
- Michael J. Puskas, \$8,387
- One Voice Studios, \$8,387
- Philharmonic Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, \$45,000
- Scranton Civic Ballet Company, \$30,000
- Scranton Jazz Festival, \$22,723
- Scranton Music Academy, \$33,548
- Scranton Music Association, \$20,000
- Step by Step Dance Studio, \$33,279



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- Tony Vergnetti, \$8,387
- Zach Sprowls, \$5,887

**ABOUT THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) OF 2021:** ARPA is a \$1.9 trillion federal economic stimulus bill. The City of Scranton received \$68.7 million in ARPA funds to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its economic impacts. The mission of Scranton’s ARPA program is to give people access to resources, rebuild the infrastructure systems that impact their everyday lives, and foster equitable wealth generation that targets the needs of Scranton residents.

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