



2ND ANNUAL LUZERNE COUNTY  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

*Hall of Fame*

SPONSORSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 8TH

FM Kirby Center  
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Friends and Community Partners,

We are pleased to announce the second annual event for the Luzerne County Arts & Entertainment Hall of Fame. In 2022 ,after years of discussion and wishful thinking, a committee was formed to discuss the establishment of a Hall of Fame to honor and memorialize all those in our area who have made their mark in the world of arts and entertainment by enshrining them in this prestigious Hall. Last year in its inaugural year, we welcomed over 400 attendees to celebrate the 16 outstanding honorees who were inducted into the Hall of Fame. There are many more that will be enshrined in the coming years and we are so excited to honor the 2024 list of honorees you see on the following pages in the Arts Category as well as the Entertainment category.

The event will take place on Friday, November 8th at the FM Kirby Center for the Performing Arts and feature an awards ceremony for the inductees as well as special performances. We ask for your support via the sponsorship levels detailed in this booklet. Our committee thanks you for your consideration and please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Hall of Fame Committee Members:

Alan K. Stout  
Beverly Jean Johnston  
Bill O'Boyle  
Jody Busch  
Joe Nardone Sr.  
Kathi Bankes  
Lindsay Griffin-Boylan  
Mayor George Brown  
Mayor Mike Lombardo  
Memo Lara  
Morris Walker  
Tony Brooks  
Will Beekman

Dinner Committee Members:

Gina Malsky  
Joell Yarmel  
Kerry Miscavage  
Kathi Bankes  
Lindsay Griffin-Boylan  
Mayor George Brown  
Sarah Harris

*The Luzerne Foundation serves as fiscal sponsor and administrator for The Luzerne County Arts and Entertainment Hall Fund (of The Luzerne Foundation)*

*Sponsorships are deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.*

*The name of the fund is The Luzerne County Arts and Entertainment Hall of Fame Fund of The Luzerne Foundation. fund is under the organizational umbrella of The Luzerne Foundation (EIN # 23-2765498) it is not a standalone 501(C) (3) but a component fund of The Luzerne Foundation. Please make checks payable to the Luzerne Foundation with The Luzerne County Arts and Entertainment Hall of Fame Fund in the memo section. Sponsorships can also be paid via credit card online via this link <https://www.luzfdn.org/types-of-funds/luzerne-county-arts-and-entertainment-hall-of-fame-fund/>*

# 2024 Arts Category Inductees

- **Annette Evans**

The ultimate supporter of the arts in Luzerne County for decades. She was closely associated with several local art institutions, including the Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre, and she was the founder of the Fine Arts Fiesta with Al Groh.

- **Erika Funke**

The modern voice of the fine arts in Northeast Pennsylvania throughout her career in radio and television. Her contributions strike the balance between the creative, journalistic, and scholarly. And she's interviewed countless artists in the process.

- **Al Groh-**

Was Wilkes University's original and most active artistic voice. He founded the Wilkes University Theater Arts program and he spent the remainder of his life supporting the program in various forms. He assisted Annette Evans with the Fine Arts Fiesta.

- **Joan Harris** — The child prodigy, turned theater performer, turned trailblazing dance icon. Her many accomplishments include opening the dance studio bearing her name, producing numerous television projects, and spearheading the "College for Kids" program.

- **Franz Kline** — The celebrated expressionist painter who was at the forefront of an artistic movement during the 1950s. His ambiguous work is displayed across the globe, and much of it is considered to be essential in the world of abstract expressionism.

- **Herman J. Mankiewicz** — The witty, Oscar-winning writer of Citizen Kane and The Pride of the Yankees who was one of the top script doctors during the Golden Age of Hollywood. His life and work were depicted in the award-winning 2020 film, Mank.

- **Joseph L. Mankiewicz** — The legendary film director, writer, and producer who helmed classics such as A Letter to Three Wives, All About Eve and Cleopatra. He is hailed today as one of the most successful writer-directors in Hollywood history.

- **Herbert Simon** — The sculptor whose work and insight has been a great asset to Luzerne County's art scene for well over half a century. His Two Modules (at Coal Street Park) and Facets (at Wilkes University) are familiar to county residents young and old.

- **Ted Sod** — The prolific and creative teacher with writing, directing, producing, and acting credits to his name. His distinct experiences in every part of the dramatic production process have made him a sought-after talent for decades in television, film, and theater.

# 2024 Entertainment Category Inductees

- **Abilene** – The popular group that took the region by storm with their fusion of country and rock music. At the height of their powers, they crossed genres and drew large crowds, becoming one of the most popular and important bands on the local music circuit in the late '70s and '80s.
- **George Graham** – The radio personality and recording engineer whose support of the arts dates back over 50 years. His long-running WVIA-FM programs, “All That Jazz” and “Mixed Bag” are just two of his many contributions to Luzerne County’s music scene.
- **Shawn Klush** – The booming vocalist whose spot-on tribute to Elvis Presley has earned him the praise and admiration of fans worldwide as well as an endorsement from Elvis Presley Enterprises. His live shows celebrating the “King of Rock and Roll” are often regarded as being the most in line with Presley’s iconic performance style.
- **Lex Romane** – A veteran musician who has pulled from the sounds of jazz, folk and everything in between. His lyrical musings on local topics, such as the rise and fall of the coal mining industry, have brought Northeast Pennsylvania’s history to a wider audience.
- **Jesse Wade and Spencer Cottman** – A musical duo whose careers in the entertainment world are intertwined. The lifelong friends were respected community figures and came together artistically to form the “Just the Two of Us” duet, touring across the state under that moniker.
- **Legends of WARMland** – The innovative disc jockeys who helped build WARM radio into a national powerhouse. Their collective knack for promotional broadcasting and ear for musical talent brought a cultural excitement to the region during the 1960s. Inductees are Tom Woods, Harry West, Joey Shaver, Len Woloson, Don Stevens, Ron Allen, Bill Stuart, Terry McNulty, George Gilbert, and Bobby Day.
- **George Wesley** – The charismatic reggae musician whose work influenced just about every artist in the county who has followed him, regardless of genre. His signature style, collaborative nature and prolific output made him one of Luzerne County’s greatest artistic voices.



## Event Sponsorship Opportunities

### ***Presenting Sponsor: \$7,500 - 1 Available***

- Event will be: "YOUR COMPANY presents event in all publicity and on the event invitation graphics
- Logo on digital production of the event
- Top billing on PR, website, signage, etc.
- 10 tickets to event with preferred seating
- Speaking role at the in-person event for opening comments
- Photos with honorees
- Full color slide to be used as a promotional spot, featured several times during event
- Company provided logo on all promotional materials
- Full Page Ad in Program Booklet

### ***Platinum Sponsor: \$4,500—2 Available***

- 8 tickets to event with preferred seating
- Full color slide to be used as a promotional spot, featured several times during production
- Company provided logo in video production & enhanced venue signage.
- Full color slide to be used as a promotional spot, featured several times during event
- Company provided logo on all promotional materials
- Full Page Color Ad in Program Booklet

### ***Gold Sponsor: \$2,500.00 - Multiple Available***

- 6 tickets to event with preferred seating
- Half-page color slide to be used as a promotional spot featured during the production
- Company provided logo on all promotional materials
- Half Page Color Ad in Program Booklet

### ***Silver Sponsor: \$1,500.00 - Multiple Available***

- 4 tickets to event
- Half-page color slide to be used as promotional spot featured during the production
- Company provided logo on all promotional materials
- Half Page Ad in Program Booklet

### ***Bronze Sponsor: \$750.00 - Multiple Available***

- 2 tickets to event
- Half-page color slide featured on digital screens
- Company provided logo on all promotional materials
- 1/4 Page Ad in Program Booklet

### ***Congratulatory Program Ads- Full Color***

Full Page \$1,000

Half Page \$500

Quarter Page - \$250

Eighth Page—\$100



## *Ticket Sales Information*

*\$60 Per Ticket*

*Pricing includes appetizers, desserts and ticket to the awards ceremony. Cash bar will be available.*

*Tickets can be purchased online or in person at the FM Kirby Center*

*5:00PM to 6:00 PM Doors Open & Reception*

*6:00 PM-9:00 PM Awards and Performances*