Where we started....

- 2008, County Commissioners, Children and youth Services and the Department of Arts and Culture ARTS Engage! was born.
- An innovative way to address the needs of at-risk children.
- The benefits of the arts, performing and visual.
- An effective way to change their lives positively.

Who is involved...

- Department of Human Service
- Office of Youth and Family Services
- Department of Arts and Culture.
- Sheriffs Department
- Social Service agencies
- Schools

Work together ...

- To provide public high quality arts
- **To date, 5,320 children** have been served with great success.
Organizations Funded since 2008

Boys and Girls Club of Northeastern PA
City of Scranton Parks and Recreation
Dickson City Civic Center
Electric Theatre Company
EOTC Friends Neighborhood Outreach
Everhart Museum
Greater Carbondale YMCA
Howard Gardner School for Discovery
Keystone College
Lackawanna Historical Society
N.E.I.U. 19
Scranton Civic Ballet
Scranton Public Theatre
United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern PA

Additional Organizations • Artists
Instructors & Facilities contribute to the success of ARTS Engage!

and its Economic Development for Lackawanna County
Why was ARTS Engage! developed?

*Research has shown* ...  
Quality art experiences  
Meaningful relationships with positive adults and peers  

*Improves youth outcomes in the areas of*...  
  - Attitude  
  - Academic motivation  
  - Mood  
  - Cognitive functions  
  - Communication skills  
  - Social-emotional development  

*Participating children explore their strengths and encourage creativity*...  
  - Development of motor skills  
  - Connects at-risk youth with caring role models  
  - Increasing their exposure to experience cultural arts and career options
Why Lackawanna County?

In Lackawanna County the following was found from a study done by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency in 2005:

- 60.8% of the in the Scranton School District is economically disadvantaged
- Scranton finished last in the nation as having ability to recover from spatial poverty through employment.
- Area school districts reported an increase in heroin use.

In November 2012, the Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children reported that in Lackawanna County:

- Almost ½ of the children under 4 years old live in poverty.
- 14% of babies are born to mothers without a high school diploma.
- 51% percent of children are on public health care.
The Need Is Great

The highest number of Children in Lackawanna County that are in the DHS/OYFS program live in;

- Scranton
- Carbondale
Who is served by ARTS Engage?

Lackawanna County Commissioners Office, Department of Human Service
Office of Youth and Family Services
Department of Arts & Culture

provides a wide variety of Arts Programs for “at-risk youth“ in Lackawanna County

The programs are also open to the public and they are all free or low cost programs to all children who reside in Lackawanna County.

There are programs available to children ranging from ages 5 thru 18 years old who are involved with Children and Youth Services or Juvenile Probation at no cost.
When does ARTS Engage! take place?

ARTS Engage! programs follows DHS/OYFS fiscal year:
  July 1-June 30
What Are The Children Learn Through ARTS Engage!

Children are exposed to various art disciplines
Music · theatre · dance · sculpting · painting · photography

Children will also gain pro-social skills
such as self-esteem · working in teams · establishing positive thinking
establishing positive peer and adult relationships

Where does ARTS Engage! take place?
Various sites throughout Lackawanna County
Cultural Centers · Museums · Schools · Libraries · Theatres
Art Studios · Dance Studios · Parks · Universities and Colleges

*Greater emphasis on Scranton and Carbondale,*
*the two area with a higher population of at-risk children.*
Recognized the need to be Fiscally Responsible

- Building relationships-partnering
- Reducing administration costs
- Reduced duplication of administrations
- Economic development - Artist
- Simplify better serving
- Lead to the Consortium RFQ

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Program Year 2010-2011

- Boys & Girls Club of NEPA: 104
- Electric Theatre Co.: 42
- E.O.T.C.: 63
- Everhart Museum: 124
- Greater Carbondale YMCA: 28
- Howard Gardner School for Discovery: 32
- N.E.I.U. #19 ArtSave: 65
- N.E.I.U. #19 Arts Alive: 111
- Scranton Civic Ballet: 21
- Scranton Public Theatre: 73
- UNC: 280
Program Year 2011-2012
Consortium Grant 1st Year
E.O.T.C

- E.O.T.C Mentoring at Skyview: 60
- Keystone Iron Works: 20
- South Scranton Intermediate School: 18

N.E.I.U. #19

- ArtSave: 38
- Arts Alive Senior: 128
- Arts Alive Jr. Performance I: 77
- Arts Alive Jr. Performance II: 116
- Willard After School Program: 79
- Willard Pre-School: 185
- Everhart Museum: 185

Children Served
Greater Carbondale YMCA: serves 179 children
The ARTS Engage! Consortium Model
Organizations are required to partner

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<th>EOTC: Celebrating 25 Years</th>
<th>NEIU19: 1923-2013</th>
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Our Lackawanna County Residents & Communities that have been served by arts engage
Financial Contributions

• ARTS Engage is 80% reimbursed by the State as a Protective Service - General Cost Center.

• There is a 20% match. It is part of our base allocation.

• The per child cost averages to about just over $200 which is much lower than many after school and camp programs which can cost over $500-$1000 per child.
## ARTS Engage! Five Year Funded $987,345.48

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2012/2013 Programs EOTC

FRIENDS Mentoring Program

- Arts Engage funding helps EOTC serve South Scranton youth ages 6 to 14 through mentoring, homework help and multidisciplinary arts enrichment.

- Programs are held at Skyview Park Apartments and at South Scranton Intermediate School with the help of screened college mentors, community volunteers, Art Education graduates from Keystone College and other professional artists.

- The students who provided their report cards for evaluation at year end 2012, 52% maintained grades and 36% improved by a ½ grade or better.

Keystone Iron Works

- Keystone College in partnership with EOTC to engage a group of at-risk and underserved high school students from Lackawanna County in the unique art of casting iron.

- High school students learn the principals of this fine art technique, create sculptures, exhibit their sculptures in art studios throughout the county.

- Students then teach this sculptural process to the public for the Community Iron Pour at the Arts on Fire festival.
At ArtSave teens will create integrated arts projects with professional artists. A certified psychologist and 2 counselors are part of the teaching staff. Their role is to work on the development of pro-social skills in the teenagers.

These young adults will also get the opportunity to go on inspirational field trips to discover art and history in our own community and community resources.

- The Electric City Trolley Museum
- Lackawanna Historical Society
- Lackawanna County Courthouse
- Steamtown National Park
- Everhart Museum of Natural History
- Scranton Cultural Center

ArtSave meets one Saturday a month.
2012/2013 Programs UNC
United Neighborhood Centers
“Illumination Youth Arts Program”

- Various art programs for students ages 5-18.
- Offering a variety of art with programs five days a week.
- Programs such as:
  - photography
  - theatre
  - drama workshops
  - dance
  - creative writing
  - interactive installations
- Artist and instructors work with students to develop a video group to produce videos that will eventually be posted on YouTube.
Building Resiliency through Action & Responsibility

DHS/OCYS
Sheriff’s Office
ARTS Engage!
Parks and Recreation
The Stable Program provides

- Team building
- Socialization
- Sense of responsibility
- Working with others

Sheriff’s Mounted Unit horses at Merli Sarnoski Park

One on One attention from instructors for classroom, training, riding instruction & barn safety
Goals of the ARTS Engage!

- Meeting the needs of Lackawanna County’s children that are at risk.

- Increase academic competencies in the arts and other content area.

- Build economic capacity for artists and arts organizations.
ARTS Engage! Objectives

Increased Skills in Artistic Disciplines and Arts Appreciation

- Provide a fresh, creative way of engaging youth in the arts?
- Interdisciplinary experiences in the arts so that children are exposed to more than one art form?
- Opportunities to have arts experiences outside structured program (field trips, special events).
ARTS Engage! Objectives

 Increased Positive Associations with Adults

- Teaching artists high quality artists with experience
- Programs with a mentorship piece and adequate number of adult to child ratio
- Activities and Events to increase family involvement
ARTS Engage! Objectives

**Increased Interactions with Positive Peer Associations**

- Programs structured so children work with others in their own age groups
  
  - Are there team-building aspects to the program? Or does the program encourage collaboration among students?
  
  - Goals and opportunities to compliment students with an exhibit or performance, allowing students to celebrate their work
Pre & Post Levels of Self-Esteem

**Purpose of study:**
To determine if a child’s perception of their positively impacted participating in an ARTS Engage program.

**Source:**
Records of children ages 6-18 years old were reviewed.

**Conclusions:**
On average, participants in this study reported higher levels in their perception of their self-esteem following the art intervention.

This evaluation was conducted by Marywood University School of Social Work in April 2011.
Involvement in Art:

By participating in an arts program the child are exposed to a peer group where friendships can be formed. Interaction with peers and the forming of peer relationships could also positively impact the increased levels of self-esteem in the children.

This evaluation was conducted by Marywood University School of Social Work in April 2011.
The Future of ARTS Engage! ...

The need for... additional resources and partners as we continue to grow and develop.

The need for... additional small staff that would be able to devote more time and energy solely for ARTS Engage! program.

The need for... additional ARTS Engage! consortia – partnerships leading towards countywide signature programs.

The need to... to increase our evaluation data and to prepare it for outside grant applications for additional funding.

The need for... partnerships with a local college/university in order to have the research done and published.

Your Consideration is Appreciated