

# Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission announces 2018 Tribute to the Arts honorees

[Jodi Duckett](#) of The Morning Call

The Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission has announced the four Tribute to the Arts honorees for 2018. For 27 years the commission has selected people and organizations that make, support, and encourage artistic endeavors that enrich our community.

This year's honorees are Dennis Danko, the affiliate director of the East Central Pennsylvania Scholastic Arts Awards; Randall Forte, executive director of the Lehigh Valley Arts Council; Timothy Fox, owner of Fox Optical & Gallery in Bethlehem, and Dr. Joy Hirokawa, founder and artistic director of the Bel Canto Youth Chorus of the Bach Choir of Bethlehem.

A reception will be held 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 25 at Luckenbach Mill, 459 Old York Road, Bethlehem. Tickets are now on sale.

Here are details on the honorees:

**Dennis Danko:** He has served as affiliate director of the East Central Pennsylvania Scholastic Art Awards for the past 17 years, an art competition for secondary school art students in Northampton, Lehigh, Berks and Carbon counties. Danko, a retired Dieruff High School art educator and and photographer, revived the event after a 10-year hiatus as part of the National Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, the nation's oldest student recognition program for art and writing.

**Randall Forte:** He has been executive director for the Lehigh Valley Arts Council since 1999. The Lehigh Valley Arts Council is the region's leading arts advocacy organization, working to ensure that the value and impact of the arts are a key part of the region's growth and quality of life.

**Dr. Timothy Fox:** He founded Optical & Gallery in 1998. His business is known for fashionable eyewear and a gallery that features the work of area artists. He served on the Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission 2004-2016.

**Dr. Joy Hirokawa:** She is the founder and artistic Director of Bel Canto Youth Chorus of The Bach Choir of Bethlehem, which has performed locally, nationally and internationally to great acclaim. She is an adjunct faculty member at Temple University, formerly led the music education program at Moravian College and taught in public schools for 20 years. She also arranges music.

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**DETAILS**

Tribute to the Arts Reception

When: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 25

Where: Luckenbach Mill, 459 Old York Road, Bethlehem

How much: \$25, adv.; \$30, door

Info: [bfac-lv.org](http://bfac-lv.org)

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