



YWCA Allentown Celebrates 25 Years of "The Perfect Fit"

By Tiffany Sondergaard

ALLENTOWN, Pa., June 25, 2025 – It all started with a suit and the belief that every woman deserves the dignity of showing up to work feeling confident, prepared, and seen. This October, YWCA Allentown proudly celebrates the 25th Anniversary of The Perfect Fit for Working Women, a transformative program that has empowered over 13,000 women in the Lehigh Valley since its founding in 2000.

The community is invited to join in celebration of this silver anniversary at the Outfit to Empower Luncheon, the organization's signature and often sold-out annual fundraising event occurring Friday, October 24, 2025, at the Renaissance Hotel located at 12 North 7th Street, Allentown, Pa 18101. The luncheon will honor a quarter-century of Service, Style, and Success, which is also this year's theme. This milestone event will highlight the extraordinary journeys of the women whose lives have been changed through The Perfect Fit.

Beginning as a grassroots partnership between five visionary organizations; the Junior League, Lehigh County, Jewish Community Center, American Association of University Women, and the Allentown YMCA/YWCA, The Perfect Fit has grown into a full-service economic empowerment hub offering clothing, career guidance, job training, and ongoing support.

"The Perfect Fit has never just been about clothes. It's about confidence, courage, and helping women step boldly into the next chapter of their lives," says Sarah Barrett, Executive Director of YWCA Allentown.

Over two and a half decades, The Perfect Fit has continuously evolved to meet the changing needs of our community and women in the workforce. Today, its services include:

The Perfect Fit Resale Boutique, located as part of Allentown's ArtWalk, the resale boutique is open to the public offering affordable fashion and next-step wardrobe acquisition

Personal Care Pantry, providing essential feminine hygiene items

One-on-One Career Counseling, launched in 2024 to provide individualized pre/post-employment support

Career Certification & Tech Training, computer and technical skills development and programs

This year, Allentown's YWCA will honor 25 years of community support and generosity, volunteerism and shared purpose during its 2025 Outfit to Empower event featuring:

Real stories from former clients now thriving in their careers

Volunteer reflections on the power of service

Community recognition for the donors and organizations that built and sustained this impactful program

Proceeds from the luncheon will support The Perfect Fit's programs, which provide women with essential resources like resume building, interview preparation, and professional attire consultations.

For more information, sponsorship opportunities or to purchase tickets, please visit <https://www.ywcaallentown.org/ote> or contact 610-871-5060.

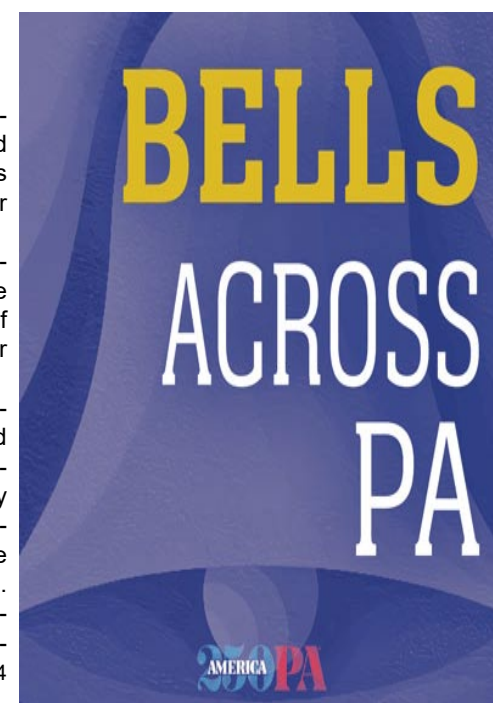
Attention Artists!

By Rep. Joe Emrick

America250PA – the organization planning the state's participation in the United States' 250th anniversary next year – is seeking submissions from local artists for its "Bells Across PA" art series.

Selected artists will execute their designs on a fiberglass bell sculpture. The goal is to place at least one bell in each of the state's 67 counties, but the hope is for many more.

Bells Across PA is open to all Pennsylvania artists and groups from the acclaimed to the amateur. Painters, sculptors, craftsmen, multi-media artists and other wildly creative people are all encouraged to apply. Each commissioned bell will receive one honorarium, regardless of group size. Learn more here <https://links.pahouse-news.com/q/-uj55Fx11j0XKtHsUlt-WAjBzs-kj1HkJy7ZcOJYnZ0aW1lc0ByY24uY29tw4gSTUlgvBeoqlbZPbx-MFm0ozJw>.



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