

ArtsQuest's Turn & Grind Shop Beam Signing Milestone

By Senator Lisa Boscola

BETHLEHEM - ArtsQuest marked the second major construction milestone for the historic Lehigh Valley Health Network (Jefferson Health) Turn & Grind Shop with a ceremonial beam signing at SteelStacks, bringing the project closer to its planned summer 2027 opening

Earlier this fall, I joined ArtsQuest President and CEO Kassie Hilgert, COO Curt Mosel, and community leaders for a beam-signing ceremony at Bethlehem's historic Turn & Grind Shop, marking another major milestone on the venue's path to reopening in 2027.

Built in the 1860s, the 155-year-old former Bethlehem Steel Turn & Grind Shop was once part of the company's Tool Division. Today, it is being reimagined as a dynamic, multipurpose arts and cultural venue that will host concerts, festivals, exhibitions, private and corporate events, and community gatherings throughout the year.

What makes this project especially meaningful is its commitment to preserving Bethlehem's rich industrial heritage while creating a modern space for future generations to enjoy. The renovation will retain historic features, including original steel and masonry, overhead cranes, and other industrial elements, while updating the building to accommodate a wide range of events and experiences.

The project also received a boost through Pennsylvania's Statewide Local Share Account (LSA) grant program, with funding approved by the Commonwealth Financing Authority and support from Representative Steve Samuelson and me. This investment supports ArtsQuest's Re-Imagine That! Capital Campaign and its vision for expanding arts, culture, and community opportunities in the Lehigh Valley.

The Turn & Grind Shop is expected to reopen in summer 2027, creating an exciting new destination that honors Bethlehem's past while helping shape its future. I am proud to support this investment in our community, which will preserve an important piece of our industrial history and strengthen the Lehigh Valley's reputation as a vibrant center for arts and culture.

Bridging Education Opportunities Through Public Private Partnerships

By Senator Lisa Boscola

EASTON - Did you know… the Bridge Education Foundation partners families and schools with businesses and philanthropic leaders to provide scholarships that allow children to attend the school that best meets their educational needs?

Last week, I had the pleasure of visiting Notre Dame High School in Easton to celebrate the positive impact the EITC Program has had on thousands of Lehigh Valley families and I assure you that I will continue to work together with dedicated donors and engaged community members, so we can expand educational opportunities for Pennsylvania's children and families, helping ensure every child has access to the resources and support they need to succeed.

Bridge raises funds through Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs, which help expand educational opportunities for children across the Commonwealth. These programs allow businesses to support nonprofit scholarship organizations like Bridge while receiving tax credits for eligible contributions.

Through the generosity of corporate partners and donors, Bridge has connected thousands of families with scholarship opportunities that help them choose the educational environment best suited to their children's needs. Their mission is to continue building that connection between community-minded businesses and families, opening doors to educational opportunities that might otherwise be out of reach.

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