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Doubling Down on Arts & Culture in Northeastern Pennsylvania Broadway Theater League of NEPA Merges with Scranton Cultural Center

Two of the region's most iconic entertainment organizations have become one.

The Broadway Theatre League of NEPA has merged with the Scranton Cultural Center.

"This merger represents more than just strategic alignment, it's a community commitment," according to Brian Calli, Esq., and John Murray, joint chairman of the Scranton Cultural Center."

"The Broadway Theatre League has brought the highest caliber productions to Scranton for over six decades, offering access to world-class performances at a fraction of the cost of New York City, and will now become part of the region's entertainment Mecca, the Scranton Cultural Center."

"Through this partnership, we ensure that generations of Pennsylvanians — especially those who may never otherwise experience the magic of Broadway — continue to have access to the arts and other future programs planned with our new venture," they added.

The Scranton Culture Center, a stunning 1930s architectural landmark designed by Raymond Hood and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has long been BTL's home stage. The special facility is current undergoing a \$10 million restoration helping to preserve the 1930 landmark for generations to come. This merger deepens that impact.

"By joining forces, we're not only preserving a historic structure — we're amplifying its reach. We're building an arts and culture hub that will serve students, seniors, families, and visitors from across Pennsylvania and beyond," according to board members, Dr. Kimberly D'Andrea and William Schoen, who are spearheading transition communication efforts.

A ceremonial signing event and facility update announcement are planned later this fall.

History of the Scranton Cultural Center

At approximately 180,000 square feet, the building houses two theatres, meeting rooms, a grand ballroom as well as numerous other rooms and areas. Over time, the Masonic Fraternity realized the need to utilize the facility in other collaborative ways, and a grass roots effort was launched to form a not-for-profit organization. The Scranton Cultural Center at the Masonic Temple (SCCMT) remains dedicated to the preservation and improvement of the structure, and to provide an ongoing programming resource for the community.

The Broadway Theatre of Northeastern Pennsylvania was established in 1959 by the late Benno and Gertrude Levy. The Levy's love for theatre stirred their desire to bring Broadway to Scranton, thus providing access to this unique American art form to the citizens of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Broadway Theatre was blessed with a great board president for many years, the late Sam Cali, whose dedication and support moved the organization into the new millennium.

Throughout its history, Broadway Theatre has welcomed many pre and post Broadway Tours and countless stars of stage and screen. Since its inception, Broadway Theatre shows have been presented in the Scranton Cultural Center at the Masonic Temple.