

**Project Director: Nick Kline**

Title: Support for the Shine Portrait Studio

Funding agency: City of Newark /Newark Arts

Nick Kline, Associate Professor of Fine Arts, Department of Arts, Culture and Media, received an award from the City of Newark Creative Catalyst Fund for his socially-engaged art project, SHINE Portrait Studio @ Express Newark. "The Creative Catalyst Fund (CCF) is designed to support long-term sustainability and assist Newark-based artists and small to mid-sized arts and cultural organizations impacted by COVID-19." Applications were competitive and reviewed by a 14-member selection committee that included arts administrators, curators, funders, residents and city officials. Awarded \$15,000.00 SHINE has commissioned two new projects, the first is a collaboration between a Newark based visual artist and a fashion designer. Together they will create a 10 piece wardrobe of capes and kimono's, articles of luxury, warmth and action, that any future visitor to the studio can use for photoshoots. The second project is to support a new collaborative documentary-style series between four photographers, filmmakers and a playwright who grew up in Newark. Two of these photographers are affiliated with the legendary Kamoinge Workshop, a collective of Black photographers established in NYC in 1963. Together they are "coming home to honor the City that gave us so much," by looking at various histories and relationships, personal and communal.