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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liberty ARC Awarded Saratoga Arts Grant

Liberty ARC, the Montgomery County Chapter of The ARC New York, was recently awarded a 2021 Arts Education grant through Saratoga Arts, in the amount of \$3,000.

The funding will be used by Liberty ARC to create a 4' by 6' mosaic piece titled "My Best Life" in collaboration with local artist Linda Biggers and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive services and supports from Liberty ARC. The mosaic will be made out of tile and glass. Zoom classes will be held with the student artists, where they will work together on the project and learn about the history, techniques, several mediums and the process of creating a mosaic. The final mosaic will be on display in the lobby of Liberty ARC's Day Supports Center building.

The work of art will represent how Liberty ARC aids individuals to live their best lives and will show what is important to each of the artists. The piece will also highlight Liberty ARC's culture and values. Our culture centers on respect, empowerment, innovation, and collaboration. Our values are quality, teamwork, integrity, respect, resourcefulness, and person-centered.

"I am delighted to announce Liberty ARC's recent award from Saratoga Arts," said Candace Opalka, Chief Operating Officer, Liberty ARC. "This project will be a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn about mosaic art and gain the confidence to create using different art mediums. Collaboration amongst our individuals and Linda will instill a sense of teamwork as they witness their pieces coming together to form a large, beautiful work of art. We are very excited to showcase, "My Best Life," to the public in the future when it is safe to do so. We extend our sincere gratitude to Saratoga Arts for this opportunity."

Saratoga Arts made this program possible with an Arts Education Grant funded by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

About Liberty ARC

Liberty ARC, the Montgomery County Chapter of The ARC New York, is a not-for-profit agency that provides top-quality supports and services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are proud of our six decades of bringing these innovative and valuable programs to those most

vulnerable in our community. While staying committed to our framework the agency has grown our employment, residential, day supports, family support and health-related programming throughout the years. Our mission- *Together we support people with disabilities to achieve a quality of life each person values* - together with our *Values* make up the foundation on which our culture is framed. We are extremely proud to be a pioneering agency, which coupled with a dynamic workforce and our person-centered mission makes Liberty ARC a stand-out in our field.

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