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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liberty ARC Art Program Partners with Montgomery County Business

Collaboration with Canajoharie Store Helps Liberty ARC Artists Reach Larger Audience

Amsterdam – Liberty ARC is excited to announce their partnership between Lee's Shops at Wagner Square and *Liberty Through the Arts* to sell household, kitchen, and gift items featuring the work of Liberty's talented artists.

Liberty Through the Arts' display of merchandise for sale at the Canajoharie-based shop features art pieces created by several artists with disabilities, who reside in Montgomery County, that express themselves creatively through Liberty ARC's art program.

"This partnership is a wonderful way to showcase the talent of Liberty ARC's artists, who live in the same community as the shoppers at Lee's Shops at Wagner Square," said Jennifer Saunders, CEO of Liberty ARC. "Our artists' work reflects how they see themselves, as individuals, as well as the world around them. When shoppers buy merchandise featuring the work of Liberty ARC's artists, they are getting to know the creator behind their purchases. A photo display of the featured artists at the store, also allows those purchasing our products to become even more familiar with who are artists are."

In the past twelve years, Liberty ARC's art program has flourished, helping Montgomery County residents with disabilities express their originality and imagination by creating stunning pieces of art with a variety of mediums and techniques. Artists that participate in the program have won a multitude of art show awards and received community recognition for their artwork.

A portion of sales collected from purchases at Lee's Shops at Wagner Square will go to the individual artist, or in the case of collaborative work, to Liberty ARC to help fund programs like *Liberty Through the Arts*.

"The partnership between Lee's Shops at Wagner Square and Liberty ARC is a great example of two businesses working together in Montgomery County," said Liberty ARC's Director of Sales and Marketing

Dawn Jacksland. "We, at Liberty ARC, are always looking for new ways to work with other companies in the area to share the talents of the people we support with their community. *Liberty Through the Arts'* business expansion is doing just that."

"It is very exciting to be partnering with Liberty ARC's art program and have their merchandise on display for sale," said Janet Lee Stanley, owner of Lee's Shops at Wagner Square. "Liberty ARC's pieces that are for sale at the store are breathtaking, and we are so happy to share their work with our store patrons."

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 personcentered mission makes Liberty ARC a stand-out in our field.

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