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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Liberty ARC Showcases Unique Talents of Artists With Disabilities With Annual Art Show

Amsterdam – Liberty ARC held its 8th Annual Creative Expressions juried art show on October 7 at the Century Club in Amsterdam, showcasing and recognizing the talents of 111 artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities from across New York State.

Every year, this inclusive event gives artists the opportunity to showcase their unique artistic talents in a welcoming community setting. Participants included artists from Liberty ARC's Liberty Through The Arts program, and other agencies from across the state that support people with disabilities, including The ARC of Chemung-Schuyler, The Arc Columbia-Saratoga, The Arc Lexington in Gloversville, and The ARC of Oneida- Lewis. Overall, 165 pieces of art were featured in the show.

"Every year, we look forward to hosting artists from across New York State in such an inclusive and celebratory setting," said Liberty ARC CEO Jennifer Saunders. "Art is an important outlet for people with disabilities to share a part of themselves with their community by showcasing their unique outlooks and world perspectives through their works of art and creativity."

This year's show was made possible with grant funds awarded by Liberty Foundation through their Ground Level Grants program. Ground Level Grants is a competitive internal grant program that exclusively benefits Liberty ARC programs and projects. Ground Level Grants is sponsored and funded by Liberty Foundation to enhance Liberty ARC's mission -- "together we support people with disabilities to achieve a quality of life each person values."

Four awards and five honorable mention certificates were given out at the show:

1st Place: "Purple Butterflies" by Liberty Through the Arts artists, Liberty ARC

2nd Place: “Seashells” by Patrick Subik, The Arc Lexington

3rd Place: “Sunset City” by Jovany Nunez, The ARC of Oneida- Lewis

People’s Choice Award: “The Rashaundrey Comics – Comic Book” by Rashann Price, The ARC of Chemung-Schuyler

1st Place Honorable Mention: “Fun Faces” by Grace Orsillo, Liberty ARC

2nd Place Honorable Mention: “Windmill” by Frank Rivera, Liberty ARC

3rd Place Honorable Mention: “Horse” by David Woomer, The Arc Columbia-Saratoga

4th Place Honorable Mention: “Choosing an Apple by Monica Lallier, The ARC of Oneida- Lewis

5th Place Honorable Mention: “Sunset Shrine” by DJ Torrellas, The ARC of Oneida- Lewis

About Liberty ARC

Liberty ARC, a chapter of The Arc New York, is a not-for-profit agency that provides top-quality supports and services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Montgomery and Schenectady Counties. 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.

About The Arc New York

The Arc New York is the largest provider of supports and services for people intellectual and developmental disabilities in New York state. The 35 local Chapters of The Arc New York collectively support more than 60,000 people with disabilities and their families in every county of the state, and employ more than 30,000 people in the shared mission to provide people with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities the ordinary and extraordinary opportunities of life. Founded by families more than 75 years ago, The Arc New York continues to be an influential advocate for the rights, opportunities, and inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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