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**Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)**  
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**\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 19, 2017**

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**FORTUNE 500 COMPANY TO UNVEIL ART INSTALLATION BY  
SPECIAL NEEDS ARTISTS**

**Johnson Controls to Have Artwork on Permanent Exhibit**

**Old Bethpage, NY** – Johnson Controls, a global diversified, technology and multi industrial leader serving a wide range of customers in more than 150 countries will unveil the work of differently-abled artists from Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE), for the first showing of what will be a permanently rotating exhibition of different artworks at their York® store location in Melville, NY. The artists will be honored at an installation ceremony and reception, hosted by Johnson Controls and FREE, on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10:30 a.m., 85 B Marcus Drive, Melville, NY.

**When:**  
**Wednesday**  
**July 26, 2017**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Where:**  
**Johnson Controls**  
**85 B Marcus Drive, Melville, NY**

**\*\*\*Great visuals as the artists will be available to discuss their works.\*\*\***

Johnson Controls and FREE are pleased to announce their collaboration with this art exhibit created by the artists at FREE. The collaboration is a product of Blue Sky Involve, an initiative of Johnson Controls that connects the company and its employees with local communities and worthy organizations and schools.  
More...

This is a permanent rotating exhibit that will be changed quarterly. The first collection on display is called “Revelations”, a very special exhibition of artwork created by individuals with Autism and other Special Needs, participating in Fine Art and Art Therapy programs at FREE.

The artists represented are a courageous group of people who, in spite of their challenges, took the risk to “talk to us” through the hidden language of images, colors and symbols. As you view each individual piece, you will notice the different and wide-ranging perceptions of life that are expressed, and you may also notice that you start to smile, as you find yourself relating to the imagery! The artwork acts as a “spiritual mirror”, speaking to the dimensions of life that are present in FREE’s artists and everyone else on the planet.

Over the years, much has been written about the power of art for healing and communication, as well as the benefits for individuals who may find it difficult to express their thoughts and feelings through spoken words alone. The images on view are a testament to this power, as FREE’s artists have focused on and touched feelings of safety, trust, understanding and love, creating an opportunity to send their message out into our world.

All are encouraged to view the works and perhaps purchase a piece. The proceeds of sales go towards supporting the artist and their program.

#### **Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)**

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE), founded in 1977, benefits and proudly supports more than 4,000 individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, mental illness and traumatic brain injury. It is the mission of FREE to assist individuals of all abilities realize their full potential. FREE provides a diverse array of supports and services including: housing; recovery services; transition to work; employment; day, community and family services; respite; crisis services; education and after school support; specialty health services; and advocacy.

FREE also collaborates with a variety of diverse 501(c)(3) nonprofit partners on educational, vocational, rehabilitative and a myriad of other creative initiatives to enhance the local communities and the lives of more than 25,000 people that reside within them. Each of the valued partners of the FREE Network has a unique mission, vision and strategic goals that are aligned in purpose, and embody the spirit of the meaningful work we do every day. For more information, please call 516-870-7000 or visit [www.familyres.org](http://www.familyres.org).

#### **Johnson Controls**

Johnson Controls is a global diversified technology and multi industrial leader serving a wide range of customers in more than 150 countries. Our 120,000 employees create intelligent buildings, efficient energy solutions, integrated infrastructure and next generation transportation systems that work seamlessly together to deliver on the promise of smart cities and communities. Our commitment to sustainability dates back to our roots in 1885, with the invention of the first electric room thermostat. We are committed to helping our customers win and creating greater value for all of our stakeholders through strategic focus on our buildings and energy growth platforms. For additional information, please visit <http://www.johnsoncontrols.com> or follow us @johnsoncontrols on Twitter.