



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 1, 2017

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**FINALS FOR FIRST ANNUAL “SPECIAL NEEDS GOT TALENT”
COMPETITION TO BE HELD THIS SATURDAY**

WWE Superstar Mick Foley & Members of Twisted Sister Lead All-Star Panel of Judges

Old Bethpage, NY – After two rounds of auditions, Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE), in partnership with the BroadHollow Theatre, is proud to announce that there are 30 finalists for the first annual Long Island “Special Needs Got Talent” competition. The finals will be held on Saturday, February 4th at 7pm at the Bayway Arts Center located at 265 E. Main Street in East Islip. Media is invited to attend the finals for this ground-breaking event and help show the world that being differently-abled does not mean you are not able.

When:
Saturday
February 4, 2017
Media Availability for performers begins at 5:00 p.m.
Event Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Where:
BayWay Arts Center
265 E. Main Street
East Islip, NY 11730

*****Great Visuals As Finalists Will Be Competing for A Chance to Be the Best on Long Island*****
More...

The finalists are made up of some of the best and brightest the area has to offer. Among the finalists are:

Johnathan F. from Plainview
Mariel C. from Holtsville
Joclyn from Massapequa
Corey S. from Massapequa
James H. from Valley Stream
Michael K from Merrick
Catalina R. from Hauppauge
Katie K. from Coram
Charlie K. from Rockville Centre
Bryan D. from Port Jefferson Station
Natalie D. from Selden
Tommy G. from Lake Ronkonkoma
Kimberly and Sharon T. from Centereach
Lauren B from Moriches
Irene G. from Farmingdale
Sarah N. from Plainview

Evaluating these performers will be an all-star panel of celebrity judges who all have a distinct Long Island flavor. The judges include:

Jay Jay French, Mark "The Animal" Mendoza, and Eddie "Fingers" Ojeda of **Twisted Sister**
WWE Hall of Famer, New York Times Best Selling Author and former WWE Wrestler, Mick Foley
Joe Rock - **WBAB** on-air personality.

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 Family of 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.

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