MURAL UNVEILING RECAP

Juliette Fowler Communities Unveils 10-by-20-Foot Mosaic Mural, Featuring Artwork from 1,500 Artists from the Southwest, Including 50 from Fowler Communities

Artists, including Juliette Fowler residents and staff as well as individuals from Arlington and San Antonio, gathered on Wednesday, March 29, at Juliette Fowler Communities in East Dallas for the unveiling of the 2023 Southwest Region Mural, a project of Mural Mosaics Global Roots Project, "America Connects." The mural, now on display for the community to see at 1234 Abrams Rd., consists of individual tiles of artwork placed in the shape of a tree. The unique tiles were painted by 1,500 artists from across the Southwest, including 50 residents and staff of Juliette Fowler Communities. A QR code on the bottom right of the mural links to a list of each artist name and city.

Juliette Fowler Communities was chosen as the 2023 Southwest Regional mural site because of its focus on community and connection as well as art and creativity. This Southwest site joins only four other American sites for the project including the West (Escondido, Calif.), Midwest (Port Washington, Wis.), Southeast (Fort Myers, Fla.), and the Northeast (Bronx, N.Y.)

Mural Mosaic Artist Lewis Lavoie and Co-Producer Paul Lavoie, brothers, from Mural Mosaic, traveled to Fowler Communities for the unveiling.

"Paul and I are traveling across America for five mural unveilings featuring the work of over 10,000 artists," said Lewis Lavoie, a visual artist from St. Albert, Alberta, Canada, who invented the Mural Mosaic concept uniting artists together through their artwork into one unified image. "I chose a tree for this year's theme, as the symbol of connection for the <u>American Connects project</u>. Each individual painting was placed into a proper place that ties to the painting next to it. The works of many artists come together to make one beautiful painting."

"At Juliette Fowler Communities, we have seen the power of art to heal and transform and to create connections and spaces where people thrive," added Nicole Gann, president and CEO, Juliette Fowler Communities. "We are thrilled to be the Southwest site for this incredible project and excited to see our Fowler Communities' tile creations come together with others from throughout the country to form a beautiful mural - a perfect display of diversity and unity!"

Since 2003, Mural Mosaic has been creating art that celebrates unity and diversity through awe inspiring mosaic productions. Mural Mosaic's Global Roots, which kicked off its first national mural with Canada Connects in April 2021, is a unique initiative that aims to bring people from around the world together through the power of art. Mosaics produced throughout North America are placed in settings accessible for artists who travel throughout the country to view them. Projects for spring of 2023 unveilings are also taking place internationally in Australia, New Zealand, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Ireland.

"We want to thank all the artists, including those who traveled from other areas in the Southwest, to join in today's unveiling as well as the many people who came together to make this day and location perfect, including the landscapers, who planted beneath the mural colorful plants representative of those found in the Southwest!" added Gann. "We invite the community to come by and see this extraordinary mural!"

Participants in this project include Fowler's Grandfriends group – youth and older adults who gather monthly to learn, create, and relate bringing the ages together and reducing the stigma of ageism; Fowler's Artful Awakenings art group – residents with dementia who participate in a weekly art class in collaboration with the Junior League of Dallas - a Junior League of Dallas signature project; seniors who live throughout Fowler in various life stages; Fowler team members; and Fowler's grief group.

Juliette Fowler Communities is a unique faith-based, intergenerational community of residents at various life-stages. Located on 20 picturesque acres, Juliette Fowler Communities provides independent and assisted living, a Five-Star Quality Rated skilled nursing and rehabilitation center, memory care and affordable senior housing. As the only certified I'm Still Here® Center for Excellence in Dementia Care in North Texas and one of only two in Texas, Fowler's program employs evidence-based techniques to adapt experiences to an individual's cognitive abilities and strengths. It has also been named a Great Place to Work in the Aging Services Industry in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. Children, youth, and family services at Fowler include foster and adoption services, a residential program for women ages 18-24 at risk for homelessness due to neglect, abuse, and aging out of the foster care system, and a new Youth Support Center – a one-stop location to help Dallas youth, both boys and girls ages 12-24, escape or avoid human trafficking and exploitation. Visit fowlercommunities.org or call 214.827.0813.