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**LOCAL ARTIST DONATES MURAL TO
VITA NOVA VILLAGE REVITALIZATION PROJECT
LED BY JUNIOR LEAGUE OF THE PALM BEACHES**

WEST PALM BEACH, FLA. (September X, 2015) – [The Junior League of the Palm Beaches](#) has received an inspiring new art mural in hopes of fostering creativity and a fresh outlook for residents at Vita Nova Village in West Palm Beach, a place designed for those who have phased out of the foster care system. The artwork by **Craig McInnis**, titled Perseverance, is being displayed in the Vita Nova's Unity model. The Junior League, which celebrates 75 years in Palm Beach County this year, is leading a major multi-phase overhaul and upgrade to the apartment units and common spaces in the Village.

An active member of the South Florida community, McInnis is the co-founder of ART SYNERGY, a countywide initiative to promote local art and culture in South Florida. He strives to give back with his talents and lift up his audience through his creations.

"I strongly believe that perseverance is the key to life and I hope the Vita Nova residents feel that as they view the artwork, especially when they see the message that is written on the back," shared McInnis, who is also the Creative Director of Fright Nights at the South Florida Fairgrounds. "I encourage the community to get involved in this project to give these young adults a real chance for a better future."

The Vita Nova Village project led by Junior League is focused on upgrading apartment units with fresh, fun new furnishings and accessories, as well as making system repairs, upgrading landscaping and the like to improve the living conditions for these young adults. The project is expected to be completed in the first half of 2016.

Sponsorship and donation opportunities are still available through Junior League for this and its other service projects focused on helping others in the Palm Beaches. For more information, contact Courtney Stafford at CStafford@shanestafford.com.

About ART SYNERGY

Founded by artists and activists Frank Basta Jr., Craig McInnis and Rolando Barrero, [ART SYNERGY](#) is a countywide movement unifying and promoting the diverse culture of the vibrant South Florida arts community. It includes the four art districts of Boynton Beach (Art Al Fresco / BBAD), Lake Worth (LULA), West Palm Beach (CONTINUUM) and Northwood Village (ArtX Art Walk).

ART SYNERGY is partnered with Art Palm Beach, one of the most influential contemporary art fairs on Florida's Gold Coast by both critics and art enthusiasts, with over 80 international galleries exhibiting contemporary and emerging artists.

In the future, ART SYNERGY's objective is to include additional events occurring throughout the year, add more participating art districts and talented artists and to focus on outreach to at risk youth and their families. For more information, visit artsynergypbc.com.

About Vita Nova

[Vita Nova](#) is an organization geared towards helping young adults transition to independence by providing a stable, nurturing environment that includes housing, counseling and education.

In the United States, kids who age out of foster care are more likely to drop out of high school, suffer from mental health problems and be unemployed. Nearly 40% become homeless. With Vita Nova, these kids have a better chance of a successful life after foster care.

Vita Nova Village was established in 2005 and is currently home to 27 residents, ages 18-23. During their stay, residents are taught basic life skills, receive counseling services and are taught the basic life skills, receive counseling services and are supported by therapists and staff 24 hours a day. For more information, visit vitanovainc.org.

About Junior League of the Palm Beaches

Established in 1941, [Junior League of the Palm Beaches](#) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Their purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Since the group's inception, JLPB has published three celebrated cookbooks, provides thousands of volunteer hours, has awarded annual mini-grants to community programs and have a vast amount of members who serve on numerous non-profit boards. Major projects over time have included the establishment and building of Quantum House and the 10,000 sq. foot Fun Zone play area in Gaines Park, while significant fundraisers have included the Designer's Show House at the Vanderbilt Mansion, the original Festival of the Trees, the Woman Volunteer of the Year Awards Luncheon and the Deck the Palms Holiday Marketplace. For more information, visit <http://www.jlpb.org/>.

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