



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Calling All Kids! Draw Your Way to Fame (and Prizes) with Grant a Gift Autism Foundation's "A Piece of Hope" Art Contest

*Contest Winner's Design To Be Featured on T-Shirt for Foundation's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Race for Hope*

**LAS VEGAS – Feb. 28, 2017** – Pick up those crayons, colored pencils, paint and markers and color for autism with Grant a Gift Autism Foundation's "A Piece of Hope" art contest. Through this contest, children and teens from Southern Nevada are invited to participate by creating a piece of art with the puzzle piece template provided by Grant a Gift Autism Foundation. The winning artist's representation will be proudly displayed on all event day t-shirts at Grant a Gift Autism Foundation's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Race for Hope and Fun Walk on Saturday, April 29. The template is available online at [www.GrantAGiftAutismFoundation.org](http://www.GrantAGiftAutismFoundation.org).

The top ten, as chosen by the foundation staff and board members, will then move to final judging by seven celebrity judges led by Vegas icon Pia Zadora. Celebrity judges include Mirage headliner Terry Fator; Shawn Stockman, award-winning musician of Boyz II Men; Rick Harrison of HISTORY's "Pawn Stars"; notable tattoo artist and owner of Pussykat Tattoo, Dirk Vermin; Mark Shunock, founder and creator of Mondays Dark and The Space; Ransom Garcia, DJ at KCYE – The Coyote; and other celebrity judges. These judges will then vote on their favorite design.

After the judges weigh in, the lucky winner will be announced on April 2, World Autism Day. The winner's work will be proudly displayed on all official 2017 5K Autism Race for Hope t-shirts. The winner will also receive a gift autographed by celebrity judges.

The contest is open to kids grades K – 12. Individuals can submit their artistic representation of hope in autism to Grant a Gift Autism Foundation by dropping it off or mailing it to 630 S. Rancho Drive, Suite D Las Vegas, NV 89106. All entries must be received by Wednesday, March 22. All entries become property of Grant a Gift Autism Foundation upon submission. A full list of rules and guidelines is available online at [www.GrantAGiftAutismFoundation.org](http://www.GrantAGiftAutismFoundation.org).

“A Piece of Hope” art contest is part of Grant a Gift’s 8<sup>th</sup> annual Race for Hope and Fun Walk. This 5K run and walk takes place Saturday, April 29 at Town Square. This day of autism awareness, fun and entertainment supports children, youth and families affected by autism living in Nevada. Registration is available online.

#### **ABOUT GRANT A GIFT AUTISM FOUNDATION**

Founded in 2009, Grant a Gift Autism Foundation grew out of the struggle of a mom whose son, Grant, was diagnosed with autism and other neuro-developmental conditions. Grant a Gift Autism Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization helping children, youth and their families fight autism by providing diagnostic and treatment funding, support services, social skills and vocational training, transition planning, and education. For additional information, please visit [www.GrantAGiftAutismFoundation.org](http://www.GrantAGiftAutismFoundation.org).

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