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Artist Piero Manrique Finishes Mural at Key Mamaroneck Site

*Come see the Latest Project in
Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council's 'Arts Live' Program*

Creating Art in the Village Where He Grew Up

MAMARONECK (September 12, 2016) – Renowned fine artist and muralist Piero Manrique, whose works enliven sites across the United States, has created his newest mural on Mamaroneck Avenue as part of the Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council's Arts Live initiative.

He has painted a mural entitled "Free," at 630 Mamaroneck Avenue, on the corner of Center Avenue.

"The Arts Council is thrilled that an artist of Piero Manrique's stature is reviving the art of wall murals in the Village of Mamaroneck," said Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council chair Solange De Santis.

"The mural's strategic location ensures that visitors will get a sense of our vibrant community and residents will enjoy this beautiful image for years to come. Thanks go to council members Chari Topol-Allison and Jacqueline Meier, Village Manager Rich Slingerland, Mayor Norman Rosenblum, the Village Board of Trustees and our Arts Council liaison, Dave Finch, for bringing this to fruition."

De Santis also said thanks should go to building owner FMF Mamaroneck Realty, LLC and Village Kitchen, which occupies the building, for their cooperation. De Santis also noted that Arts Council volunteer Laura Saravia Bott, of the Bott Shoppe art store at 606 Mamaroneck Ave., was essential to the project.

Arts Live focuses on bringing public art to Mamaroneck's open spaces to provide focal points that foster a sense of community while creating a visual representation of the evolving village. The program began in May with the unveiling of two sculptures by artist Ernest Shaw near the Mamaroneck Public Library and the Emelin Theater and also includes a lecture series at the village library.

As it grows, the initiative will continue to offer visitors and residents more works of art that they can enjoy, and will enhance the village's sense of history through the pieces' color and imagery. A mural by local artist Laura Heiss and a team of students has existed for several years at the pedestrian walkway next to the CVS drug store at 275 Mamaroneck Ave.

"Art is an integral component of any successful community," said Mayor Norman Rosenblum. "Mamaroneck is fortunate to be adding to our vibrancy and continued expansion of the very fabric of our quality of life that is pleasing to all to live, work and visit in the 'Friendly Village.'"

Manrique's mural will bring his art to the village where he grew up and where he is based. A native of Peru, he moved to the Westchester village in his youth and graduated from Mamaroneck High School before attending SUNY Purchase College in Harrison and Parsons School of Design in Manhattan.

"I'm very proud to be invited to create this mural for the village," Manrique said. "When I arrived in Mamaroneck from Peru, when I was 12, it was difficult for me to learn the language and to make the cultural switch to America. Every day I passed Center Avenue as I walked to school. I never imagined that one day I would be asked to paint a mural on that very same street. I'm very excited to be sharing my art with the community."

His company, Manrique Mural Art and Design, was recently awarded a commission for a two-story mural in the lobby of the recently renovated City Center in White Plains to be completed this fall. His other local works include cityscape murals at the Gotham Hotel in Manhattan; a graffiti-style mural at the J House Greenwich, a contemporary luxury hotel in Greenwich, Conn.; and four nature murals he created at the Westchester Material Recovery Facility Education Center in Yonkers. In New Rochelle, his works can be seen at the city train station, the New Roc City entertainment center and St. Catherine's AME Zion Church.

About the Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council

The Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council, a committee of volunteers, is supported with public funds and donations. Its mission is to engage the community in the creative arts experience; to highlight the value and importance of art in our lives, to nurture and celebrate local artists through support and presentation of the visual, performing, and literary arts. Visit the Village of Mamaroneck Arts Council on Facebook.