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**LEADERSHIP ARTS INSTITUTE COLLIN & DENTON COUNTIES, CLASS OF 2021,
ANNOUNCES PROJECT BENEFITTING MY POSSIBILITIES**

Collin and Denton Counties - The Leadership Arts Institute Collin and Denton Counties Class of 2021 has created a two-part project to help My Possibilities honor the Hugely Important People (HIPsters) and staff members who are no longer with us and to showcase the talents of those currently enrolled.

The project will commission the creation of a memorial tree with leaves that honor each individual HIPster and staff member the community has lost. The tree will be installed on the My Possibilities campus, surrounded by a painted rock garden created by current HIPsters to constructively and creatively express their grief.

The second component of the project consists of artistic residencies that pair selected HIPsters with artists from various disciplines to create works that express their grief. Artist mentors include Landry Champlain, Vocalist and Miss Plano 2021; Deb of Gracein, Painter; and Terry Odis, Spoken Word Poet. Additionally, the Writer's Garret will assist HIPsters with a written project focusing on understanding and coping with loss. The virtual event on Friday, May 7th at 12pm will serve as the unveiling of the memorial and showcase performances of the work created during the artistic residencies in one powerful, dynamic event. Details on how to join the live stream of the celebration will be shared on the project webpage. The City of Plano will announce this day in honor of the event.

Learn more and support this project at <https://ntbca.org/lai-cd-class-project-2021>

MY POSSIBILITIES: My Possibilities (MP) is a Plano-based non-profit that serves as a pioneering leader in vocational education and job placement for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) throughout North Texas. MP is changing the landscape for adults with IDD.

BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

For more than three decades Business Council for the Arts has connected North Texas businesses and educational institutions with regional arts and culture. Annually, this region's



arts organizations employ some 52,000 individuals and make a \$1.5 billion impact on the regional economy.