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**Romero Britto's American Dream Fetches \$250,000
at Sotheby's Auction**



The Sotheby's Contemporary Day Sale auctioned an original painting created by Romero Britto (above) honoring President Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline titled, "American Dream."

MIAMI—May 15, 2015— Yesterday, \$250,000 was raised by internationally-renowned pop artist, Romero Britto, in support of Best Buddies International.

The Sotheby's Contemporary Day Sale auctioned an original painting created by Britto honoring President Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline titled, "American Dream."

The presidential couple is depicted in Romero's iconic style of bright colors, bold patterns and hard-edged compositions. The inspiration for this artwork stems from Kennedy, democracy, hopes and dreams.

“The American Dream painting represents the dream that anyone can do what they wish,” said Britto. “As with most immigrants, the Irish came to America with not much more than their hopes and dreams. Nevertheless, they achieved success while contributing to the fabric of this great nation. A time of great change and opportunity for all was signaled when John F. Kennedy became president – as a family, they continue to represent strength, promise, hope, and a sense of duty.”

Founded by Anthony Kennedy Shriver in 1989, Best Buddies International serves to create opportunities for one-on-one friendships, employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"I am incredibly grateful for the immense generosity of my dear friend of 20 years, Romero Britto. The sale of 'American Dream' at Sotheby's was a record for a Britto and will also allow Best Buddies to expand its support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the globe," said Anthony Kennedy Shriver, Founder and Chairman of Best Buddies International. "My entire family feels such great pride in seeing the continued affection and respect our country has for both my Uncle Jack and Aunt Jackie."

Best Buddies has grown from one original chapter to almost 1,900 chapters worldwide in more than 50 countries around the world. Best Buddies' eight formal programs positively impact nearly 900,000 individuals with and without disabilities globally.

For additional information or to schedule a phone interview with Romero Britto, please contact Rosalie Hagel at Finn Partners, 954-765-3636 or britto@finnpartners.com.

ABOUT ROMERO BRITTO

Brazilian-born and Miami-made, Romero Britto is an internationally renowned pop artist who uses vibrant color, playful themes and hard-edged compositions to capture the attention of both youthful spirits and educated art collectors.

With an iconic style described by The New York Times as, “[exuding] warmth, optimism and love,” Britto’s unique talent, unshakable resolve and belief in his art have granted him a significant presence in the United States, Europe, South America and Asia.

Britto is an activist for charities worldwide, and most importantly, an artist who believes "art is too important not to share." He serves as a benefactor for more than 250 not-for-profit organizations, committing time, resources and art as an agent of positive change. Britto’s work evokes happiness and hope using a visual language all its own that is relatable to all.

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