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Prime Cuts: A Surreal and Soulful Journey Through Collage Opens in Sid Jacobson JCC's artSPACE

Exhibit Opening Scheduled for Sunday, March 23, 1-2:30pm

East Hills, N.Y. (Mar. 19, 2025) – Sid Jacobson JCC is proud to present *Prime Cuts*, an evocative exhibition by artist and cancer survivor, **Kevin Long**. The collection, featuring a series of striking analog collages, is on display in our expansive 90-foot artSPACE through April, with an opening reception scheduled for Sunday, March 23, 1-2:30pm.

Sourced from Kevin's personal journey toward healing following a cancer diagnosis, *Prime Cuts* transforms ordinary materials—magazines, books, and assorted paper media—into extraordinary, thought-provoking works of art. Each collage is meticulously handcrafted, reflecting the emotional depth that defines Kevin's creative process.

"At a time when I needed something to ground me, collaging became my way forward," said Long. "It helped me process, heal, and rediscover joy. I never sit down with a final image in mind—there's an element of surprise, a sense of letting my subconscious take the lead. By manipulating size, depth, and perspective, my work can evoke amusement, reflection, and a bit of mischief."

What began as a deeply personal outlet has now become a platform for giving back. All proceeds from artwork sales will directly support Sid Jacobson JCC's Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Cancer, which offers free holistic wellness services to individuals coping with the challenges of cancer, and their families.

"Kevin's ability to turn his personal journey into a visually compelling experience is quite extraordinary," **Jaime Teich**, Associate Executive Director, Marketing + Communications stated. "Prime Cuts is not just an exhibition—it's a testament to the power of art as a means

of healing and connection, and we're honored to showcase it in support of our Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center."

Long, who remains an active participant with SJJCC's Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center and a former member of its Advisory Board, has found community and purpose within the Center's programs.

"We are so proud of Kevin, not just for his artistic talent, but for his generosity to paying it forward," said **Randy Hight**, Director of Sid Jacobson JCC's Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center. "His journey is one of resilience, and his decision to donate all of the proceeds speaks volumes about his character. Through art, Kevin is not only sharing his story, but also supporting others on their own paths toward healing."

This marks Kevin's first exhibition, and he hopes his playful, surreal works spark emotion and engagement. "Collaging reminds me of childhood—sitting at a desk, surrounded by scraps of paper, cutting and pasting, not quite sure what I'm making. I feel that same wonder every time I create," Long shared. "I'm so grateful to Sid Jacobson JCC for the opportunity to share my work, and to the amazing people at their Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center for all they do. I've been blessed with an incredible full-circle moment here."

Sid Jacobson JCC's artSPACE features rotating exhibitions showcasing local and emerging artists throughout its 90-foot gallery.

For more information on *Prime Cuts*, please visit sjjcc.org/artspace.

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About Sid Jacobson JCC

Sid Jacobson JCC (<u>sjicc.org</u>) in East Hills provides a full range of cutting-edge recreational, health, fitness, educational, cultural arts, and social service programs. SJJCC promotes Jewish identity and provides a comprehensive program based on Jewish values, traditions, heritage, and culture, and is committed to enriching the lives of all individuals and families in its community. Where life flourishes.

"Like" the JCC on Facebook (<u>facebook.com/sidjacobsonjcc</u>) and "Follow Us" on Instagram (<u>instagram.com/sidjacobsonjcc</u>).

Sid Jacobson JCC is a beneficiary agency of the UJA Federation of New York.