



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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NEWS RELEASE**

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**Malibu Elementary School Fifth-Grade Class
Dedicates New Sea Lion Mural**

Continuing a long tradition of mural dedication at Malibu Elementary School, the fifth-grade culminating class unveiled a new mural featuring the school's sea lion mascot.

The campus, previously Point Dume Marine Science School, until combining this year with Juan Cabrillo Elementary School to become Malibu Elementary School for the 2019-20 school year, has many ocean-themed murals gracing the campus located a few blocks from the beach. The new mural adorns a previously blank wall located in the kindergarten parent courtyard on the stairwell up to the library.



"I love the new mural!" Principal Christopher Hertz exclaimed, as he completes his first year at the helm of the school. "The mural celebrates our new mascot, in a respectful way that gives dignity to sea lions and keeps the mural-gift tradition alive." The painting background depicts Point Dume from Westward Beach."

The mural was painted by Natasha Post, a former Cabrillo student, whose father graduated from Point Dume MSS. The artist told Hertz that the other murals on campus inspired here to create this latest project.

"Malibu Elementary School is a school that uniquely promotes student ownership of the local marine biomes," Hertz said. "This mural will inspire children and adults to value the space we share with other species. I am so thankful to our first graduating fifth grade class and parent leadership that made our new mural a reality."

See additional photos and a time lapse video of the artist painting the mural:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/JVz5a7dcQJbMixX99>

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