



CITY OF PALO ALTO

NEWS RELEASE
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LARGE-SCALE MURAL EVENT SET FOR CALIFORNIA AVENUE

Palo Alto Public Art interactive mural event is open to the public and seeking painting volunteers

PALO ALTO, CA.— [The Palo Alto Public Art Program](#) is excited to announce its first large-scale [Mural Event](#) on California Avenue. Mural Artists [Olivia Losee-Unger](#), [Paz de la Calzada](#), and [Nicole Ponsler](#) will paint vibrant temporary murals on California Avenue. The original artworks will draw inspiration from the unique character of California Avenue, and members of the public will have the opportunity to sign up to help paint one of the murals. California Avenue is already known for its public art reflecting the diversity of local businesses, residents, and artists. These murals will further enliven California Avenue and will make a huge visual impact on the area. Mural painting will take place on June 1-9, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

“Based on the success of this pilot murals event, we hope to expand the program to commission new murals in more commercial districts of Palo Alto. We hope that the new murals will draw lots of people to California Avenue, the 'Avenue of the Arts', during the event and for years to come.”, said Elise DeMarzo, Director of the Public Art Program.

The public is encouraged to experience art as it is being created, meet the artists, and join the creative process by signing up as volunteers to help paint one of the murals. Two wall sites are being commissioned. Artist Nicole Ponsler will be painting her mural on the wall of Palo Alto Central, located at 149 California Avenue, and artist Olivia Losee-Unger will be painting a wall at Izzy's Brooklyn Bagels located at 477 California Avenue. The third mural by artist Paz de la Calzada will be a streetscape ground plane mural at the intersection of California Avenue and Ash Street. Artist Paz de la Calzada will engage community members as volunteers to help her paint elements of her mural.



Digital Proposal Sketch by Paz de la Calzada

Quercus 650 by Paz de la Calzada

Intersection of California Avenue and Ash Street

Artist Statement:

"This mural explores the relationship between California oaks and water in the context of the climate crisis. Using the fluid and organic qualities of water, I evoke the movement and vitality of these majestic trees, highlighting the importance of nature and the fragility of ecosystems that depend on water. This work is a tribute to the beauty and resilience of oak trees, and a call to action to protect them."

Are you interested in helping artist Paz de la Calzada paint the ground mural? All painting supplies and instructions will be provided. Sign up for an AM or PM shift between June 5 – 9. Please wear comfortable clothes and closed-toed shoes, bring water and sunscreen. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old and sign a waiver at the event. Volunteers under 18 years old must have a parent or guardian sign their waiver. Previous painting experience is not necessary. [Sign up now for a volunteer shift!](#)

Join the fun, support the public art program and artists, and then stay on California Avenue to eat and shop local.

About the Palo Alto Public Art Program

The City of Palo Alto Public Art Program is committed to contributing to the intellectual, emotional, and creative life of the Palo Alto community by creating engaging art experiences and dynamic public spaces for Palo Alto residents and visitors. The Public Art Commission (PAC) reviews and advises the Public Art Program on selection, placement, and care of public art throughout the City of Palo Alto. Learn more at: www.cityofpaloalto.org/publicart

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