






TEN MURALS IN TEN YEARS

Chuck Sheldon, a longtime Hermosa Beach resident and former mayor, founded the Murals Project in late 2009 after he and a group of friends toured the murals of Santa Paula and 29 Palms in California.

The group was inspired, and realized that murals can beatify a downtown business corridor and capture Hermosa's rich and eclectic historical events.

This group formed The Hermosa Beach Murals Project (HBMP), a non-profit corporation, and began planning Hermosa's first mural. Their goal was to have ten murals painted in 10 years. They completed their final Mural in 2021, and were adopted by the Hermosa Beach Historical Society & Museum who will carry on their legacy to share public art and history with the City of Hermosa Beach.







THANKS FOR TAKING THE TOUR!

Become a museum member and steward of history today!

Family memberships start at $50.

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HERMOSA BEACH

MURAL WALKING TOUR

HERMOSA BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

THE MURALS

MURAL #1 - Hermosa Beach Pier Plaza Circa 1924
Artist: Art Mortimer
Location: 14th & Hermosa Ave. on North Wall

The scene looks west along Pier Avenue toward the public pier. It depicts Pier Avenue as it appeared in 1924, including businesses such as the National Bank of Hermosa Beach, the Hermosa Pharmacy, the Pier Hotel, and Pier Head.

MURAL #2 - A Splash of Hermosa
Artist: Chris Coakley
Location: 140 Pier Ave. South-West corner at Manhattan Ave

The scene looks southeast from the point of view of the Pacific Ocean off 16th St. toward the Hermosa Beach Pier. The mural shows a modern young woman (modeled by the artist's daughter) tossing a can of paint onto a wall, which then fans out to become a picture of Hermosa Beach circa 1909.

MURAL #3 - Hermosa Beach West Coast Jazz
Artist: John Pugh
Location: 1007 Hermosa Ave. at 11th Ct. North

In very dramatic fashion the mural reminds viewers of the rich history of jazz in Hermosa Beach particularly as it rolled out of the Lighthouse Cafe from the 1950s to the 1970s.

MURAL #4 - Hermosa Swimwear Evolves
Artist: Steve Shriver
Location: 500 Pier Avenue at Cypress Ave.

The Mural presents eight vignettes depicting Hermosa swimwear over more than a century. While the transitions from one style of swimwear to another were never sudden, there were definite differences from one period to another.

MURAL #5 - Hermosa's Great Wave
Artist: John Van Hamersveld
Location: Hermosa Ave. & 14th Street

The mural depicts the evolution of Hermosa Beach surfboards through time, with Van Hamersveld's mural expressing the narrative through the silhouettes of three surfers, each holding a different surfboard representing a distinct era.

MURAL #6 - Volleyball in Hermosa
Artist: Bo Bridges
Location: 13th Ct. & Beach Drive

In Hermosa Beach in the late 1920's the first sand court was built in the front yard of a house on 19th Street. Later courts were established at the Shattuck house at 9th Street, and at the corner of 23rd and The Strand. There were often notorious competitions between the players from these courts. This mural depicts an expanse of sand with a high-flying woman player hitting the ball!

MURAL #7 - Lifeguards in Hermosa
Artist: Joanna Garel
Location: 13th Ct. & Hermosa Ave.

The City of Hermosa beach established a lifeguard headquarters at the pier circa 1926. In 1936, Mayor Cotton asked the LA County to assume and adopt their lifeguard functions because the City was overwhelmed with beach patrons visiting from LA on the Red Car. The LAFD Lifeguard Operations now cover 72 miles of coastline from San Pedro to Malibu.

Mural #8 - Punk & Skate in Hermosa
Artist: Daniel Inez
Location: 13th & Hermosa Ave. South Facing Wall

This mural shows Hermosa's punk and skate scene in the 70's and 80's which was centered in and around an abandoned Baptist Church on Manhattan Ave. We see the bands that originated and performed in that space including Black Flag, Pennywise, and Descendants.

MURAL #9 - Beatnik Alley
Artist: Timothy Robert Smith
Location: Pier Plaza & Beach Drive, West Facing Wall

This mural is an ode to the Beat Generation after the Second World War of poets, writers, and musicians whom set the stage for the next generation of hippies, anti-war movements, and racial awareness.

MURAL #10 - The Biltmore Hotel
Artist: John Pugh
Location: 1229 Hermosa Ave. West facing wall

In 1924 a group of South Bay Businessmen established an exclusive professional men's club, THE SURF AND SAND BEACH CLUB. In 1929, it was sold to the LA Athletic Association, then to the Biltmore Hotel Chain. Ultimately the property ended up under City ownership, and the long abandoned hotel was demolished in 1969. It is currently Noble Park.

