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**WEDNESDAY MARCH 18, 2009**

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## **CITY ATTORNEY DELGADILLO, COUNCIL MEMBER ALARCON, SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER KORENSTEIN UNVEIL NEW MURAL AS PART OF ANTI-GANG EFFORT**

**LOS ANGELES** – Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo and his School Safety prosecutors today joined with City Council Member Richard Alarcon (CD-7), Los Angeles Board of Education Member Julie Korenstein (District 6) and the students at Maclay Middle School to unveil a new mural created as part of the City Attorney's school safety partnership with the Los Angeles Unified School District. The mural stems from the City Attorney's efforts to provide students with concrete alternatives to delinquent behavior, and a safety net from gang members and other criminals who prey on youth.

"Preventing crime on our school campuses and prosecuting those who would harm our children are only part of our mission as school safety specialists," said City Attorney Delgadillo. "We also know that providing safe and educationally enriching alternatives for our students during non-school hours is critical to keeping them away from the gangs who seek to terrorize our neighborhoods."

Over the past six weeks, students from Maclay worked on the mural project every Monday and Friday after school. As part of their work on the mural, students traveled to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to learn about artistic expression in different regions of the world, and during different time periods.

Maclay Middle School's School Safety Prosecutor, Deputy City Attorney Ayelet Feiman, worked with LAUSD's Beyond The Bell Branch, and Create Now to construct and paint the new mural.

Created at the beginning of the current academic year, the City Attorney's School Safety Division focuses on neighborhoods-based prosecution to improve safety and security at schools throughout the City of Los Angeles. As part of this effort, prosecutors from the City Attorney's Office have fanned out across Los Angeles to work in partnership with school officials in communities from the Harbor to Pacoima, and from Mar Vista to Cypress Park. In addition to prosecuting crimes in and around school campus, School Safety Prosecutors from the City Attorney's Office help create after school programs and other outside activities to foster a more productive climate on school campuses.

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The other schools in the partnership are Mark Twain Middle School in Mar Vista, Nightingale Middle School in Cypress Park, Berendo Middle School in Koreatown, Mann Middle School in Hyde Park, Bethune Middle School in South Los Angeles, Cochran Middle School in the Mid-City Area, Wilmington Middle School in Wilmington, and Audubon Middle School in Leimert Park.

Create Now is a nonprofit organization that transforms the lives of high-risk and at-risk youth through creative arts mentoring, education, resources and opportunities. Create Now has served over 18,000 youth in the last 13 years. More information on their work can be found at <http://www.createnow.org/>

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