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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**8-foot Whale Skull, Giant Serpent and Colorful Mural**

### **TRIUMVIRATE OF ART PAYS HOMAGE TO REAL AND MAKE BELIEVE BEASTS THAT ROAMED CYPRESS PARK & ORIGINAL INHABITANTS**

**WHAT:** Three very unique works of art, part of revitalization efforts in Cypress Park, will debut. The eclectic trio is located in Taylor Yard on a parcel owned by the MTA (two are next to a future 30-acre state park) and used by Metrolink. MTA commissioned three artist teams to create: an impressive 8-foot tall prehistoric whale skull (*artist Jackie Dreager*) cast from an actual skull discovered in Elysian Park in 1931 and, now at the Natural History Museum; a pedestrian walkway resembling a 150-foot serpent with a tongue and eyes that light up at night (artists *Robert Villagómez and Quito Hernandez*); and a dazzling painted mural wider than a drive-in movie screen depicting Native American history on Metrolink's maintenance hangar (artist team *Sindicato Regeneración*). After artists receive certificates of appreciation, media can walk less than 100 yards to view the prehistoric/mythological theme artwork and/or take a van to see the mural.

**WHERE:** Taylor Yard, Cypress Park, Los Angeles  
San Fernando Road and Private Access Road  
(next to historic watchtower-see attached directions)

**WHEN:** 9:30 a.m., Thursday, January 31, 2002

**WHO:** MTA Board Chairman John Fasana  
L.A. City Council member Ed Reyes  
Metrolink Board Chairman/ MTA Board Director Hal Bernson  
The Artists  
Albion and Aragon Elementary School kids

MTA-005

###

## Directions to Taylor Yard Press Event

### Golden State (5) Freeway

#### Southbound:

- Take the Pasadena Freeway-Los Angeles off ramp (first exit after Stadium Way)
- Keep left and take the Figueroa Exit
- Turn right at the corner onto Riverside Drive
- Continue over the bridge
- Riverside Drive turns into Figueroa Street
- Go two blocks
- Make left onto Avenue 26
- Make a right onto San Fernando Road
- Go a half a mile to the Taylor Yard Private Access Road
- Make a left onto private access road
- The Taylor Yard Historic Tower is on the corner of San Fernando and private access road
- Make a left into first driveway onto Parcel C
- Park

### Golden State (5) Freeway

#### Northbound:

- Take the Pasadena Freeway off ramp (first exit on right after Broadway)
- Stay on the right hand side
- Take the Figueroa exit
- Turn left onto Avenue 26
- Make a right onto San Fernando Road
- Go a half a mile to the Taylor Yard Private Access Road
- Make a left onto private access road
- The Taylor Yard Historic Tower is on the corner of San Fernando and private access road
- Make a left into first driveway onto Parcel C
- Park

### Pasadena (110) Freeway

#### Southbound

- Take the Avenue 26 exit (first exit on right after Golden State Freeway offramp)
- Turn right onto Avenue 26
- Make a right onto San Fernando Road
- Go a half a mile to the Taylor Yard Private Access Road
- Make a left onto private access road
- The Taylor Yard Historic Tower is on the corner of San Fernando and private access road
- Make a left into first driveway onto Parcel C
- Park

### Pasadena (110) Freeway

#### Northbound

- Pass through the tunnels (near Dodger Stadium)
- Stay on left lane
- Take Figueroa Street Exit (exists toward the left and is right after the Golden State Freeway off ramp)
- Turn right onto Figueroa
- Stay in the left lane
- Turn left at Avenue 26<sup>th</sup>
- Make a right onto San Fernando Road
- Go a half a mile to the Taylor Yard Private Access Road
- Make a left onto private access road
- The Taylor Yard Historic Tower is on the corner of San Fernando and private access road
- Make a left into first driveway onto Parcel C
- Park