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## New Blue Improvements Project

## New Portrait Series by Metro Art Celebrates Neighborhoods Along the Blue Line

Metro Art is pleased to announce the inaugural portrait series More People Than You Know that will debut at Blue Line stations as part of the New Blue Improvements Project. The portraits feature people from the many neighborhoods along the Blue Line, which runs for 22 miles between downtown Los Angeles and downtown Long Beach.

Riders, artists and curatorial advisors with ties to these neighborhoods and cultural organizations worked closely with Metro Art to produce art that is intimate, immediate and relevant to local communities. The stories captured by the artists are both personal and universal.

"Metro riders see aspects of themselves or their lives reflected in the portraits." says Maya Emsden, Deputy Executive Officer of Metro Arts & Design. "The stories, the people and the places depicted bring surprise and delight to the transit experience."

The first 12 portraits will first appear on the new IxNTouch information screens that have been installed at stations along the southern section of the Blue Line that is reopening on June 1. They'll also be featured on limited edition TAP cards that will be distributed at TAP Vending Machines (TVM) in October when the New Blue project is expected to be complete.

Artists participating in the launch include:

Eric Almanza Kristina Ambriz Jazmine Atienza Daniel Barajas Cat Ferraz Alepsis Hernandez

Bodeck Hernandez Cody Lusby José M. Loza LP Aekili Ross Dave van Patten Angela Willcocks

## **Additional Metro Art Improvements**

To further improve the customer experience, several existing artworks along the Blue Line are being refurbished. New artworks by artists George Evans and Jamex and Einar de la Torre will

be installed at Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station and the new Customer Center in the coming months.

High-resolution digital images of the art are available upon request for publicity use. For more information about Metro's art programs please visit <a href="www.metro.net/art">www.metro.net/art</a>.

## **About Metro**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is unique among the nation's transportation agencies. Created in 1993, Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that transports about 1.3 million passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines. The agency also oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related building projects and leads transportation planning and programming for Los Angeles County.

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