

THE ISLAND BRIDGE

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Balboa Island Museum Exhibit



On September 13th, a 130-foot-long gallery exhibition tracing the 100 plus year history of Newport Beach was unveiled mounted on a long corridor wall in Terminal C at John Wayne Airport, Orange County. Created by Balboa Island Museum (BIM) Executive Director **Tiffany Pepys Hoey** and her staff of historian-archivists, the exhibit will run through the 2024 holiday season, closing January 27, 2025.

Heather Bowling, curator for John Wayne Airport, Orange County has worked with Hoey and staff for more than a year to bring this project to the public. Previous to joining the Arts Program at John Wayne Airport, Bowling was director and curator at Brea Gallery. Her passion is “to make art accessible to all creating inviting, engaging experiences for visitors of all backgrounds.”

The Balboa Island Museum Exhibit will take the public on a century long journey through much of the history of coastal Orange County. Scenes on display will be the Balboa Island Ferry, Boy Scout Jamboree, Marine Avenue shops, kids at the museum, the Irvine Family, along with so many other contributors to Orange County culture including many important citizens whose deeds made an impact on life at the beach. The museum exhibit follows two recent curated exhibitions by Bowling; “No Touching”, and “Endless Summer”, both at John Wayne Airport.

Art at the airport is overseen by the John Wayne Airport Arts Commission comprised of five board members appointed by the Orange County Board of Supervisors. They represent various districts and are led by Ms. **Kim Le**, chair (3rd

Opens at John Wayne Airport



District). Others include **Victor Payan** (2nd District), **Christine Hernandez** (1st District), **Susan Petrolla** (4th District), and **Mary Christine Surgailla** (5th District). Bowling added, "We are currently focusing on re-imaging the Arts Program at the airport. We will endeavor to provide opportunities for emerging and marginalized artists."



The Balboa Island Museum exhibit offers an often nostalgic and emotional glimpse into both the glory and the growth of coastal Orange County along with its challenges over the development of one of American's most recognized

communities. Hoey and her team have curated the photo gallery and editorial copy placed in black frames lining the 130-foot wall in the terminal for thousands of travelers to examine. Since its inception some 10 years ago, Balboa

Island Museum has welcomed some 350,000 visitors through its doors at 210 Marine Avenue, free to the public, on iconic Balboa Island. Many of the visitors have come by way of arrival at John Wayne Airport, Orange County.



To learn more about the Balboa Island Museum, please visit balboaislandmuseum.org



**Balboa Island
museum
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