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THE NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM COMMISSIONED ARTISTS ON STAFF FOR NEW MURAL

The mural titled, *The World of Les Mor and Mor no Mor*, will be unveiled Aug. 17

SAN DIEGO – August 4, 2022. The New Children's Museum commissioned two artists on staff, Marcus Deridder and Taylor McCabe, to paint a large-scale and interactive mural. *The World of Les Mor and Mor no Mor* mural will be unveiled for visitors to experience on August 17.

One of several staff mural submissions, *The World of Les Mor and Mor no Mor* was selected to be the Museum's first in-house created mural. Marcus Deridder, a Museum teaching artist, and Taylor McCabe, a visitor experience specialist, are both self-trained contemporary artists focused on creative and collaborative site-specific art practices.

"As part of the Museum's commitment to support, collaborate with, and commission local artists, we felt it was important to look inward and provide opportunities for artists on staff," said the Museum's Executive Director and CEO, Elizabeth Yang-Hellewell. "We have many talented artists who work at the Museum and we wanted to showcase their artwork inspired by the playfulness of the Museum's engaging installations."

The World of Les Mor and Mor no Mor depicts two lively worlds of the imaginary Mor Universe: *Les Mor* on the upper level with friendly feathered birds, and *Mor no Mor* on the main level with mischievous cave dwelling creatures. The interactive aspect of the mural allows visitors to travel between the two worlds through the Museum's magical elevator "portal" and help the citizens of each world stay in touch by writing messages and leaving mail in each level's mailbox.

"It can be very difficult to break into the art world, so I am grateful for this opportunity to exhibit my work at the Museum," said Marcus Deridder about completing his first commissioned and major piece of artwork. "I want to share my art practice, and this opportunity has allowed that to happen on a large scale with a lasting impact."

"Through creating, I am able to be vulnerable, and so I hope there is always potential for others to have the same therapeutic response when interacting with my artwork or through the act of

making art itself,” says Taylor McCabe who partnered with Deridder on the Museum’s newest mural.

The mural will be complete and unveiled for visitors August 17, with an artist reception and ceremonial ribbon cutting on **August 15 at 4:30pm**. The artists will be available for questions and interviews. Learn more about the mural at thinkplaycreate.org/world-les-mor-mor-no-mor.

[Link to Photos](#)

- Photo of artists
- Mock Up images of mural
- Artists working on mural

About the Artists

Marcus Deridder (b. 1993, San Diego, CA) is a self-taught mixed media artist and developed his skills through his use of easily accessible mediums and materials; anything that was around, he involved in his art making. He found a turning point while living in the Bay Area, accrediting his stylistic and conceptual development to his immersion within the art scene and like-minded artists.

Taylor McCabe (b. 1998, San Diego, CA) is a self-trained mixed media artist who began her art practice as a child with realistic charcoal portraits. Her expansion into various other materials and mediums, such as painting, progressed her aesthetic and conceptual methods outside of realism. She is currently working mostly with oil pastels, collage, and glitter glue; the latter being a staple in her most recent works.

About The New Children's Museum

The New Children’s Museum is a new model of children’s museum whose mission is to stimulate imagination, creativity and critical thinking in children and families through inventive and engaging experiences with contemporary art. Located downtown, the Museum collaborates with contemporary artists to design and create art installations and educational programs for children. The Museum brings families together in a rich educational environment that fosters creativity — blending the best elements of children’s museums, contemporary art museums and community resources. In addition to the downtown San Diego location, the Museum has a second location called the Art + Play Space in Del Mar targeted to the toddler audience. To learn more, visit thinkplaycreate.org or follow them on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#).