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PALM DESERT

***LOVE ACROSS THE USA* MURAL CELEBRATES PIONEERING DESERT ADVOCATE AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN ACCLAIMED ARTIST AND THE COMMUNITY**

PALM DESERT, CA (April 4, 2019) – Join internationally acclaimed street artist OLEK and local community members who worked to create a collaboratively crocheted mural for *Love Across the USA* at a ceremony dedicating the artwork on Saturday, April 6, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Palm Desert City Hall, 73510 Fred Waring Drive.

The mural is California's only artwork in the 50-state *Love Across the USA* project. Its many panels were crocheted by local residents over the past several months. The completed work was unveiled and hung on Palm Desert City Hall on Thursday, April 4. It is scheduled to remain there for approximately three months, providing a colorful and unique art experience for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians passing by on Fred Waring and San Pablo Avenue.

The subject of the mural, revealed for the first time when the mural was hung, is Minerva Hamilton Hoyt. Hoyt, who died in 1945 at age 79, was a groundbreaking activist who founded the International Desert Conservation League. Her work to preserve desert areas encouraged the state of California to establish three desert parks, including Joshua Tree, Death Valley, and Anza-Borrego and eventually convinced the federal government to designate more than 800,000 acres of California desert as Joshua Tree National Monument in 1936.

The *Love Across the USA* mural in Palm Desert is a Desert X parallel project sponsored by the City of Palm Desert and CREATE Center for the Arts. For more information, please visit loveacrosstheusa.com or call 760-346-0611, ext. 664.

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