



Hello my name is Aashi Jalota! I am a senior at Sage Creek High School, Girl Scout, and aspiring physician with a passion for science, art, and environmental conservation. I am excited to announce an upcoming educational mural at the nature center of the Batiquitos Lagoon! As part of my Girl Scout Gold Award project, I will be designing and painting a large-scale mural that will showcase the diverse and unique marine life throughout the lagoon. The mural will feature native plants and animals that are vital to the ecosystem, and will also

include a QR code that allows visitors to learn more about the species and habitats represented. My goal is to create a piece of public art that is both visually engaging and educational for community members of all ages.

I chose this project because I wanted to make a lasting contribution to my community while raising awareness about the importance of ecosystem preservation. I have spent my whole life visiting the lagoon and have developed a deep appreciation for the natural beauty and extensive biodiversity. These ecosystems provide critical habitats for countless distinctive species, yet so many people do not realize how important they are. I am inspired to use art as a way to connect people with nature and encourage them to do their part in protecting the environment.

Throughout my academic career, I have pursued challenging coursework and sought opportunities to develop my leadership skills, such as President of National Honor Society and Administrative Officer of the Sage Creek Dance Company. I have been volunteering with the City of Carlsbad's Cultural Arts Department for the last couple years, helping with activities such as summer camps and community events. Moreover, I am highly passionate about medicine, and have extended my interest with an internship and volunteering at Scripps. In my free time, I enjoy going to the beach with friends, painting, reading, and playing tennis! This mural brings together many of the interests that have shaped who I am.

We will be painting the mural during July and August, make sure to come down and see it!! In addition, if you are skilled in painting and want to learn volunteer hours, contact me at aashi.jalota@gmail.com to help with this project!

