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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **PORT OF LOS ANGELES WELCOMES NEW NEIGHBOR: THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOL**

*Today's Dedication Ceremony Officially Opens the  
Maritime-Focused Charter High School*



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**SAN PEDRO, Calif.** – The Port of Los Angeles applauded the start of a new era in local high school education today as the international business and maritime studies-focused Port of Los Angeles High School, a charter school, opened next door to the Port administration building in San Pedro.

“The energy these students bring to the area and to the industry is unbelievable,” said Port Executive Director Geraldine Knatz. “It is so gratifying to have a group of students committed to a high school education that goes beyond the traditional curriculum. The Port is proud to be a part of this exciting program.”

The Port of Los Angeles supports the high school in a number of ways: renting Port-owned office space to the school for class and administration rooms; offering expertise and staff input on maritime trade issues as needed, including staff serving as unpaid volunteers on the Board of Trustees. In the future, the Port hopes to be able to provide funding to support maritime-related curriculum.

“The Port is pleased to support this school,” said Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners President S. David Freeman. “This institution advances the interests of the Port while also exposing the students to career opportunities related to maritime and global trade industries, and providing them with a skill set that can be of use in our region’s thriving goods movement arena.”

The Port of Los Angeles has a long history of supporting programs that provide maritime-related educational programs. Port-supported educational endeavors include:

#### **TopSail Youth Sail Training Program**

The Port is a major sponsor of the Los Angeles Maritime Institute’s TopSail Youth Sail Training program. Created for at-risk youth, the TopSail program teaches middle school students more than just how to sail, it teaches them to work together while building confidence and instilling self-confidence. The official

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## **Port of Los Angeles High School**

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tallships of the City of Los Angeles, the *Irving Johnson* and the *Exy Johnson*, are the cornerstone of this program.

### **International Trade Academy**

The Port of Los Angeles International Trade Academy (ITA) at Banning High School in Wilmington is the first program in a series of academic programs designed to bring maritime studies to a broad cross section of youth in the Los Angeles Unified School District and other school districts in future years.

Additionally, the Port supports the Global Safety and Security, and Global Environment Sciences academies at Banning High School, and coordinates a summer internship program for ITA students.

### **School Boat Tour Program**

The Port of Los Angeles offers free educational boat tours to fifth grade students in the Los Angeles Unified School District. In 2005, more than 6,600 students visited the Port and took boat tours.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs in Wilmington and San Pedro**

The Port partners with these organizations to provide maritime activities and programs to the youth of Wilmington and San Pedro.

### **Harbor Community Development Corp./Mendez Youth Center**

Offering various types of support to this Wilmington program, the Port most recently loaned computers and office equipment to the Center to create a homework/study center.

### **California Maritime Academy**

Each summer, two college students from the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo are selected for paid summer internships at the Port of Los Angeles.

### **Student Worker Program**

Part of the larger City of Los Angeles program, college students work part-time at the Port while attending school to gain valuable experience in the work environment. Often, these students are hired full-time upon graduation.

The Port of Los Angeles is America's premier port. As the leading container port in the nation and a critical hub in the international supply chain, the Port generates 259,000 regional jobs and \$8.4 billion in annual wages and tax revenues. The Port of Los Angeles also places a high priority on responsible growth initiatives combined with high security, environmental stewardship and community outreach. The Port of Los Angeles is a proprietary, self-supported department of the City of Los Angeles. The Port of Los Angeles - A cleaner port. A brighter future.