

Hermosa Beach superintendent honored at Sundance Film Festival



Submitted photo.

Pictured are Patti Ackerman, member of the Hermosa Beach School District board; Aric Ackerman, chairman Creative Coalition Spotlight Initiative Gala; Pat Escalante, superintendent and honoree; HRH Princess Tessy of Luxembourg, who presented the award to Escalante; Susie Fraley, former VP fundraising Hermosa Beach Education Foundation; and Jeff Fraley, SVP Big 5 Sporting Goods.

By **BEACH REPORTER** |

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The Creative Coalition recently honored Hermosa Beach City School District Superintendent Patricia Escalante for her service and dedication to public education at a luncheon in Park City, Utah. The event was part of the national arts organization's annual gathering during the Sundance Film Festival, held there each year.

Escalante was nominated for the honor by longtime Hermosa Beach resident Aric Ackerman, founding partner of The LOLA Agency and Chairman of The Creative Coalition's 2017 Spotlight Initiative Gala.

"I've watched firsthand what a profound difference Superintendent Escalante makes for the children of the Hermosa Beach schools," Ackerman said. "We are so happy to acknowledge her wonderful work."

Escalante was honored for her efforts to bring on additional teachers so that every child can exercise their right to a good public education.

"One certainly doesn't become a teacher in order to be honored," said Escalante in accepting the award, "but it certainly is wonderful to be recognized for your work. Educating our children is the greatest challenge and-I believe-the greatest privilege

any of us can undertake. I am grateful to The Creative Coalition for this recognition and for the important work they do in support of the arts and education.”

The Creative Coalition is a nonprofit, nonpartisan social and political advocacy organization of the entertainment industry. Founded in 1989 by actors Alec Baldwin, Ron Silver, Christopher Reeve, Susan Sarandon and Blair Brown, TCC “educates and mobilizes leaders in the arts community on issues of public importance, specifically in the areas of First Amendment rights, arts advocacy and public education.”

-courtesy of the Creative Coalition.