



## CESAR CHAVEZ MURAL UNVEILED

Ontario, Calif. – On Wednesday, November 5, 2003, Vina Danks Middle School and Pitzer Community College unveiled “Arms Wide Open”, a mural promoting the legacy of Cesar E. Chavez, the importance of service-learning, the importance of becoming a contributing member of society, and the importance of diversity and tolerance for multiculturalism.



The project was funded by a GO SERV (Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism) grant that was awarded to the school on behalf of the 2003 Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning.

The project started with a blank wall and a commitment by Vina Danks, Pitzer College and mural artist Paul Botello to create a lasting tribute to Cesar E. Chavez and the local heroes who serve as role models and mirrors of the late labor leader's dedication to social justice and civil rights.

Hands reaching from below and above frame Chavez as the central element of the mural. The hands, inspired by an eighth-grader's drawing, reflect the themes of the painting: the persistent struggles of migrant laborers, and the parents, teachers and friends who reach out to one another to build strong communities.