

## The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Cesar Chavez Day of Service Learning

California is the first state to honor Cesar Chavez by creating a Day of Service and Learning for his birthday. On March 31, join with people who are carrying on his legacy with conservation, human service, culture and arts and community improvement projects.



The Institute promotes **Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning**. California's teachers are required to include a one-hour lesson on the life and teaching of Cesar Chavez. Teachers across the state downloaded the **Institute's Educational Curriculum** featuring Cesar Chavez to use as a framework for their lesson plans; community organizations used it as a tool to inspire students to develop environmental, human service, cultural arts and community improvement projects; AmeriCorps and Conservation Corps members used our curriculum to inspire youth to develop service learning projects that carry on Cesar Chavez legacy.

### Latino Heroes in *Pan Y Vino Para El Camino*

- **Cesar Chavez**, Mexican American  
United Farm Workers
- **Edward James Olmos**, Mexican American  
actor, activist, philanthropist
- **Nane Alejandre**, Mexican-American  
Barrios Unidos, Santa Cruz, CA
- **Marilyn Concepcion Cheyne**, Puerto Rican  
Latin Affairs for Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro
- **Don Francisco**, Argentinian  
Sabado Gigante, Univision
- **Will Morales**, Puerto Rican  
Boston Urban Edge Police Partnership, MA
- **Alejandro Obando**, Nicaraguan  
Las Chavalitos & Manhattan Country School NYC
- **Dr. Juan Romagoza**, El Salvadorian  
La Clinica del Pueblo, Washington D.C.

Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative



Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative  
Carrying on Cesar's dream of radio station

In 2005, VYLI youth leader Josue Cruz traveled to California to work with Cesar Chavez grandson, Cesar on the VYLI website and trained at the Radio Campesina to create his own radio show. He also visited the Cesar Chavez Foundation with Cesar's granddaughter, Julie and Cesar's burial in La Paz.



Cesar Chavez Day in San Francisco: 2007  
Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative

VYLI Project Coordinator Tania Cruz traveled to San Francisco to participate in **Cesar Chavez Day**. She worked alongside Cesar's nephew (above) and 100 diverse youth, adults and dignitaries on a KaBoom! community-service project to renovate a schoolyard and build a playground at Cesar Chavez Elementary School.



**Cesar Chavez & Josue Cruz  
Cesar Grandfather Burial  
La Paz, California**

*As a member of the Institute's International Advisory Council, it is an honor to work with Marianne Larned and her team for the last several years. My family and the Cesar Chavez Foundation are grateful for her dedication to help carry on my grandfather's legacy. Ten years ago we collaborated on the Institute's first book, **Stone Soup for the World** and then the first Spanish book and curriculum **Pan Y Vino Para El Camino** and feature it during California's Cesar Chavez Day of Service Learning. We were honored to present the Institute's first Cesar Chavez Award to Edward James Olmos in conjunction with the launch of **Pan Y Vino Para El Camino** at the first Los Angeles Latino Book Festival. I also enjoyed being part of the **Oakland Youth Leadership Initiative** where college students used the Educational Curriculum to inspire young people to stay in school, dare to dream, give back and make a better future for everyone.*

*What touched me most was the Institute's four-year demonstration project in Vieques, Puerto Rico. My wife Kristin and I served as faculty for **Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer Institute** in 2005 where I experienced the transformative power of the Institute's leadership and training programs. It was life changing! In spite of overwhelming odds, painful statistics and international apathy, these young people were encouraged to dream about what they wanted for their lives and their future. During the intensive weeklong training, we exchanged stories and explored innovative ideas for how to create a healthier island. We developed action plans to pursue their own dreams and prepared powerful presentations. VYLI's youth leaders served as Camp Counselors - "Each*

*one, teach one." We worked as a team, building on each other's strengths and respecting differences; communicating concerns and troubleshooting challenges. In just one week, we accomplished a lot! We produced a play, wrote a song, created indigenous crafts to sell, learned to swim and designed a website: [www.vyli.com](http://www.vyli.com) Step by step, these young people began to pave the road to their own future. We are very proud of their recent VYLI 2020 Report on the future of Vieques.*

*That summer we began a Radio Initiative in response to VYLI youth leader Josue Cruz dream to give his people a voice in their future and a connection to the world. Since the U.S. Navy left in 2003, Vieques is undergoing a monumental transition with no local media to facilitate coverage of the island's rebirth. For decades, the people of Vieques have been disconnected from the world and the critical decision-making process affecting their future. It's heart breaking to see the psychological impact and deep cultural, social and economic divide. Vieques desperately needs to be connect to people around the world with resources, opportunities and support.*

*For similar reasons, my grandfather created the first grassroots radio network to educate Spanish-speaking farm workers. Radio Campesina was proud to host Josue Cruz at our studios in Bakersfield and train him to be a radio host. We've then worked with the Institute to secure a federal planning grant and apply for an FCC license. It's been a long two-year process.*

*With the culmination of the demonstration project, the Institute is leaving a legacy for my Spanish friends in Vieques.*

**Cesar L. Chavez  
Radio Campesina**