

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's
Celebration of Heroes
Presentation of first Cesar Chavez Award to
Edward James Olmos

Los Angeles, CA 2002

On November 3, Cesar Chavez granddaughter, Julie Rodriguez presented the Institute's first Cesar Chavez Award to Edward James Olmos. The event was at the Latino Book & Family Festival at the LA Convention Center.

A close friend of Cesar Chavez, Eddie has carried on his legacy of serving and passing it onto future generations. Early on, the Latino actor and activist used his head, heart and talent to find ways to succeed until others would follow. Known for his big heart, Eddie often challenges others to share theirs. After the LA riots in 1992, he galvanized people from across the city to unite in cleaning up the rubble. With the simple but powerful gesture of holding up a broom and a dustpan on TV, he invited all who were watching to join him, to take to the streets and clear away the debris.

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.

Cesar L. Chavez

## Radio Campesina

The Celebration of Heroes Campaign honors everyday heroes, passes on their legacy and ignites the heroic spirit in people around the world. This fall, the Institute will present awards at events in Oakland (Nov.1), Los Angeles (Nov. 2) and New York (Nov. 13) to everyday heroes featured in the book, "Stone Soup for the World: Life-Changing Stories of Everyday Heroes" (Random House 2002). The LA Book & Family Festival was the premiere event for the book, Pan Y Vino Para El Camino.

Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown kicked off the Campaign by presenting the Stone Soup Community Hero Award to Oakland Fire Captain Ray Gatchalian. On Nov. 13, Walter Cronkite will present the first Gandhi Award to Muhammad Yunus, The Grameen Bank; the Eleanor Roosevelt Award to Marietta Goco, Philippines Presidential Commission to Fight Poverty and the Stone Soup Community Hero Award of New York City to Steve Mariotti, National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship.

The stories in **Pan Y Vino Para El Camino** are a testament to the Latino tradition of giving back. One of the most important gifts we can give our children is to read stories about those who went before them. Our children need to know about the sacrifices Cesar Chavez and others made for them, and their responsibility to give back to future generations.

Who will they learn this from -- if not from us? With 31 million Hispanic people in America, we can create a great future. My hope is that after reading these stories each one of you will be inspired to move beyond what you think is possible by helping each other take ownership of your lives and your futures.

I can almost hear Cesar's words: "Si se puede! Yes, we can!"

From introduction to Pan Y Vino Para El Camino by Edward James Olmos