



Sacramento City Unified School District
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824
916.643.9040
916.643.9049 FAX

News Release

For Release
April 21, 2009

Contact: Maria L. Lopez
(916) 643-9043 or (916) 752-3705

Thursday, April 23 appearances by Anthony Chavez

Chavez grandson helps Sacramento students mark 16 years since legendary UFW founder's passing

Students at Sacramento high schools will observe the 16th anniversary of the passing of farm labor and civil rights leader Cesar Chavez on Thursday by hearing Anthony Chavez, 23, speak about his grandfather's message of nonviolence and self-sacrifice.

Anthony Chavez recently graduated from California State University, Bakersfield with a B.A. degree in religious studies. He speaks around the country about his grandfather and serves as assistant to 82-year old Benedictine Brother David Steindl-Rast, a world-renowned author and lecturer. Chavez will also discuss the origins of the phrase "*Si Se Puede!*" ("Yes We Can"), coined by his grandfather during a 1974 fast, that has been adapted around the world, most recently by President Obama as the theme for last year's presidential campaign.

Anthony Chavez speaks to students at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 23 in the C.K. McClatchy High School media center, 3066 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento. At 11 a.m. he appears at a school assembly at George Washington Carver School of Arts and Science, 10101 Systems Parkway, Sacramento.

He will also appear that day during a 1:30 p.m. assembly at Cristo Rey High School, 6200 McMahan Dr., Sacramento.

Cesar Chavez, who died on April 23, 1993, founded the first successful farm workers union in U.S. history in 1962. By battling nonviolently for decades, Chavez also inspired millions of Latinos and other Americans to become socially and politically active in their own communities. His birthday, March 31, is observed as an official holiday in California and seven other states.

###