



GROSSMONT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

# PRESS RELEASE

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## SANTANA HIGH SCHOOL TO HOST RECEPTION SHOWCASING "MEMORY PORTRAITS" PAINTED FOR HONDURAN ORPHANS

*Student Art Work on Display, Thursday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m.*



(EL CAJON, CA)—On Thursday, December 7, 2006, at 6:30 p.m., the library at Santana High School will serve as the display and reception area for a charitable student art project, culminating in the completion of student-crafted portraits to be delivered to Honduran orphans in the New Year.

Santana Art Teacher Charlene Ervin contacted [thememoryproject.org](http://thememoryproject.org) after learning about this organization which matches high school art students with photos of orphans on the CBS Evening News in early September. When Ms. Ervin informed her advanced art class students

about the project, they were eager to participate and began practicing by drawing and painting their own self-portraits as they waited for photos of the orphans to arrive.

Ms. Ervin said, "The project is so meaningful because children who have been abandoned, abused, or orphaned have very few personal keepsakes. The purpose of these student-crafted portraits is to provide the orphans with a special memory of their youth and to help honor their heritage and identity."

Art student and junior Megan Bailey said, "It was fun looking at the pictures of the students. I was drawn to the dimples and smile on the boy I painted. He looks like a really nice kid and doing this for him makes me feel good."

More than twenty student-crafted portraits will be laminated and delivered to the children at the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos Orphanage in Honduras next year. Each portrait will be accompanied by a letter from the student artist that was translated into their native tongue by the students in Spanish classes at Santana.

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