



**POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER UNVEILS LARGE-SCALE OUTDOOR CUSTOM MURAL BY RENOWNED LOS ANGELES ARTIST TONY SHEETS**

*“Gift of the Valley” Mural Adorns Side of New Hospital Parking Structure in Eastern Los Angeles County*

**POMONA, Calif., Nov. 13, 2017** — Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has installed a large custom mural, adorning the southeast side of the hospital’s new parking structure. The mural, called “Gift of the Valley,” was painted by notable artist Tony Sheets.

The “Gift of the Valley” mural depicts large golden oranges, blossoms and leaves, inspired by the citrus industry that defines the origins of this region of Los Angeles County. The large-scale mural measures 30 feet tall by 83 feet wide.

“The installation of this beautiful mural signifies the completion of our new Trauma Center, expanded Emergency Department and parking structure capital improvement project,” said Richard E. Yochum, FACHE, President/CEO. “We are committed to serving the growing health care needs of our community and are delighted to enhance the neighborhood with stunning public art as part of our construction efforts.”

The artwork and installation was underwritten by a gift to the PVHMC Foundation from Elizabeth “Betty” DesCombes and her children, in memory of her late husband and longtime PVHMC board member, Donald R. DesCombes. Betty DesCombes served on the PVHMC Foundation board for 11 years, from 2007-2017, and was elected as an emeritus to the board this year.

Tony Sheets is well-known in the Claremont artist community of Southern California, where he was born in 1942. His father, Millard Sheets, was a renowned artist, teacher, and head of the art department at Scripps College. Early in his career, Tony worked as an apprentice for sculptor Albert Stewart and alongside famous artists and sculptors including Jean and Arthur Ames, John Svenson and Tom Van Sant. After working for Walt Disney to create exhibits at Disneyland, Sheets assisted in painting a large mural in the downtown Los Angeles Crocker Bank Building. Sheets also assisted with the development of a new process for the creation of cast concrete wall sculptures.

“It was an honor to create this mural for PVHMC,” said Sheets. “I grew up in this valley surrounded by citrus groves and I coined the mural’s title from my wonderful memories of early life here. Two of my children were born at this hospital which made the experience all the more personal to me.”

Sheets started his own business as an artist in 1972 and has created numerous large-scale sculpture murals throughout California.

**About Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center**

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is a 437-bed, acute care, nationally accredited not-for-profit medical center serving eastern Los Angeles and western San Bernardino counties. In 2015, PVHMC achieved The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for advanced certification in inpatient diabetes care, palliative care, sepsis and total joint replacement. In 2014, PVHMC was recognized by Healthgrades as one of America's 100 Best Hospitals for Cardiac Surgery, Coronary Interventions and Cardiac Care, and was announced as one of only four hospitals in California to achieve Excellence Awards in Cardiac Surgery, Coronary Interventions and Cardiac Care and three Top 100 designations listed previously. It is one of only four hospitals in California to receive an Outstanding Patient Experience Award for five consecutive years (Healthgrades). PVHMC is also a recipient of the prestigious Baby-Friendly designation. For more information, visit [pvhmc.org](http://pvhmc.org).

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