



PROVIDED PHOTO

SNAPSHOT: ART WINNER

Juan Ortiz Cortez, 17, of Albany won first place in an art contest March 3 at the 2017 Cesar E. Chavez Leadership Conference. The Albany Options School senior said he was inspired by a movie he saw about Chavez. "The counselor told me about the contest so I decided to do it." Cortez is mostly self-taught but has taken some art classes at Albany Options. He plans to use his \$250 first-place prize to purchase art supplies. "I want to continue making art with pencils and painting. My dream is to have that as my job," he said. "I already have an Instagram account showing my art @ortiz_art_studio." The conference is considered the largest Latino youth leadership conference in the Pacific Northwest and brought some 2,200 students to Western Oregon University this year. For the art contest, students were allowed to submit either a drawing or an illustration that depicts the theme of the conference or is related to Chavez or his labor or civil rights activism.