

# PASADENA STAR-NEWS

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## Flower tower of hope



Photos by L.J. McALLISTER

Pediatric patients at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena pitched in Monday to paint floral panels that will make up what organizers claim will be the largest monument in the United States. The individual panels will help cover a 165-foot tower — 13 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty — in Beverly Hills, each side of which will portray one of the four seasons. Project 9865 draws on the artistic prowess of children from every pediatric unit in California to create the monument, which will

have three times the surface area of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling. The project is part of a larger creative therapy program called Portraits of Hope, which aims to enhance the quality of life for both pediatric and senior patients. Rebecca Northcott, 8, above, paints for her sister Emily, 5, who suffers from Hirschsprungs disease. Carmen Rodarte, below, collaborates on a painting with her son Jimmy, 5, at the Huntington Memorial Hospital Pediatric Center on Monday.

