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**CONSULATE GENERAL OF MEXICO HOSTS STEPS TO COLLEGE 2014**

*2014 Pasos a la Universidad Invites 3,000 Latino High School Students to College Financial Aid & Admissions Feria*

Sacramento, CA – (2014) – The California Student Aid Commission; the Consulate General of Mexico in Sacramento, *Cien Amigos*; the Mexican Cultural Center of Northern California; the University of California; the Latino Policy Coalition; the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities; and, Dream. Develop. Do. invite you to attend **Steps to College 2014** on Saturday, February 1, 2014, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Consulate General of Mexico in Sacramento, located at 2093 Arena Boulevard, in the Natomas neighborhood of Sacramento. This event is FREE. **Steps to College 2014** will highlight the importance of higher education for Latino high school students. This event is presented in both Spanish and English and parents are encouraged to attend. Students will have the opportunity to apply on-site for the California Dream Act financial aid, Cal Grants, and institutional aid and, if students are eligible, federal grants. The college financial aid application period in California begins on January 1, 2014 and is open until March 2, 2014. Visit [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov) for more detailed information. Register online at [www.stepstocollege2014.org](http://www.stepstocollege2014.org).

According to Diana Fuentes-Michel, Executive Director of the California Student Aid Commission, “High school seniors from twenty-four northern California counties are expected to attend Steps to College 2014. Students can also participate in a college tour of Sacramento State University or the University of California at Davis.”

“This year’s *Pasos a la Universidad* is expected to attract 3,000 students and their families,” commented Carlos González Gutiérrez, Consul General of Mexico in Sacramento. He added, “Behind this very beneficial fair, is the hard work and the planning of many people, institutions and organizations, all of them committed to the goal of encouraging young Latino students to get a college education. There will be representatives from over 40 public and private California colleges and universities providing information about their admission and financial aid processes.”

The objective of **Steps to College 2013** is: 1.) To explain the full array of resources available for Latino students to finance their higher education 2.) To expose Latino families to the admissions process on Northern California higher education institutions; and 3.) To assist Latino students in completing their student aid applications. Student workshop topics will include Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Financial Aid, College and University Admissions, and Consular Affairs. Students will learn more about available scholarships and the Cal Grant program. For more information please contact Patti Colston at 916.206.1285. View a video clip of Steps to College 2013 at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJudZTX0548>.

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