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NEWS RELEASE

Lodi Resident Receives Prestigious "Marmaduke Award"

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA—California Student Aid Commission's Executive Director, Diana Fuentes-Michel presented the "2007-08 Arthur Marmaduke High School Counselor Award" to Ms. Rebecca Jauregui of Lodi High School for her excellence in counseling and skill in motivating and helping an exceptional number of graduating high school seniors to receive financial aid for education beyond high school.

Last year, 59 percent of Lodi seniors who submitted a complete application for Cal Grants received an award. Nearly 150 Lodi High school seniors were offered Cal Grant awards during the last two years.

"California students deserve access to financial aid information to help them get to a four year college or private career college," Fuentes-Michel said. "Financial aid is available but the challenge is providing an easy pathway to get the information to students."

Jauregui is a Lodi High School College and Career Center Coordinator who has improved financial aid awareness to more than 500 Lodi students by organizing and hosting Cash for College workshops, serving on scholarship committees, and helping students connect the dots between colleges and funding opportunities.

"For each of the last two years, the Commission has offered new High School Entitlement awards to more than 60,000 California high school students," said Fuentes-Michel.

The Marmaduke Award is presented each year by the California Student Aid Commission and EdFUND, its student loan auxiliary, to one financial aid counselor or administrator who has demonstrated superior skills, dedication and commitment in helping students gain access to postsecondary education through the Commission's grant, scholarship and loan assumption programs.

Jauregui received the Marmaduke award at the Lodi High School graduation ceremony at 7 p.m., May 30, at Lodi High School.

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