



NEWS RELEASE

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Outstanding High School Counselor for 2003-2004 Honored with Arthur Marmaduke Award

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA — The California Student Aid Commission and EDFUND, its student loan auxiliary, announces today that Sue Ann Joy of San Rafael High School, San Rafael, California is the recipient of the distinguished 2003-2004 Arthur Marmaduke High School Counselor Award. The annual award goes to an outstanding California high school counselor who demonstrates extraordinary counseling skills resulting in exceptional numbers of graduating high school seniors who enroll in college. Joy was selected from an outstanding field of candidates and honored today at San Rafael High School in San Rafael.

“It is with heartfelt congratulations that the Commission applauds the remarkable contributions of Sue Ann Joy to the students of San Rafael High School by encouraging them to pursue their dream of a college education,” said Diana Fuentes-Michel, executive director of the Commission. “With this award, the Commission recognizes the day-by-day, dedicated hard work of California high school counselors, as they strive to assist their graduating seniors with accessing a college education.”

Joy, in her 41st year working at San Rafael High with a diverse student body – both socioeconomically and ethnically – has myriad accomplishments to her credit, including individualized knowledge and counseling of each senior on their post-graduation plans; small group training on how to apply for financial aid for college and how to complete the necessary forms; lunchtime Senior Scholarship meetings; bilingual Financial Aid Night meetings for seniors and their parents; the San Rafael High School Alumni Scholarship Committee; informative assembly presentations by representatives from California’s various higher education segments, such as the California State University; and, a calendar of senior guidance counseling practices that has been perfected over the past 30 years.

“High school counselors are a vital link in helping students navigate the various financial aid programs and gain access to a higher education,” said EDFUND President Becky Stilling.

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“We’re delighted to join the Commission in congratulating Sue Ann Joy on this wonderful recognition of her work with her students.”

Judith Colton, principal of San Rafael High School, states that Joy is “the benevolent sage, the experienced counselor, and the matriarch of her field.” Colton continues, “Sue Ann has created the most comprehensive program for postsecondary education and financial aid that I have ever seen. What she has created for our seniors is truly beyond compare.”

Asked what she considered as one of her most memorable student success stories, Joy reminisces, “I can think of one student, who could have been a drop-out....I knew she was bright, but she had family problems. So, much of what I did was encourage her to keep her in school ... keep her focused, not ready to run away....She did attend (community) college and then was able to transfer and graduate from college. She became a teacher, an elementary school teacher. She has come back to visit me.”

The Arthur Marmaduke High School Counselor Award was established by the Commission in 1985 to recognize annually one high school counselor who has demonstrated superior skills, dedication, and success in helping students seek and receive financial aid for college. Arthur Marmaduke served as the executive director of the Commission for 25 years, and this award is made in honor of the dedication and commitment that he demonstrated in helping students gain access to postsecondary education through the Commission’s many grant and loan programs.

Sue Ann Joy was presented with a commemorative plaque and a \$1,500 monetary award at today’s award ceremony.

Visit www.csac.ca.gov and www.edfund.org for information on programs and services available through the Commission and its auxiliary, EDFUND.

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The California Student Aid Commission is the state’s principal provider of intersegmental statewide grant aid to postsecondary students. Founded in 1955 as the California State Scholarship Commission, the Commission’s primary programmatic responsibilities include operation of the Cal Grant program, which will distribute about \$612 million to California’s college students during the 2003-2004 school year, and several targeted state scholarship and loan forgiveness programs. The 15-member Commission oversees the activities of its nonprofit student loan services auxiliary, EDFUND. The Commission is headquartered in Rancho Cordova, California.

EDFUND, a nonprofit public benefit corporation, is the nation’s second largest provider of student loan guarantee services under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. EDFUND offers students a wide range of financial aid and debt management information while supporting schools with advanced loan processing solutions and default prevention techniques. Operating as an auxiliary corporation of the California Student Aid Commission, EDFUND processes more than \$5.5 billion in student loans annually (including consolidation loans) and manages a portfolio of outstanding loans valued at \$21 billion. EDFUND is headquartered in Rancho Cordova, California with regional offices located throughout the nation.

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