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Sergio Romo to Help Mission Graduates Honor Youth Achieving College Dreams

Mi Pasaje Graduation Ceremony

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist- 110 Julian San Francisco CA 94103
June 12th 2014 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

San Francisco, CA, June 2014 – Mission Graduates is pleased to announce that San Francisco Giants' pitcher Sergio Romo will help celebrate educational milestones for 25 high school and 8 college graduates at this year's Mi Pasaje graduation event on Thursday, June 12th at The Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist. *Mi Pasaje* or *My Journey*, celebrates a rite of passage for Mission youth that have worked so hard to reach their educational goals against many odds. The event will highlight stories of personal triumph from high school graduates, college graduates, and parents.

This year, College Connect honors the amazing achievements of the high school class of 2014. The 25 students that make up the 6th Cohort of first-generation students have collectively raised $639,500 in scholarships, averaging to over $25,000 per student. For the 3rd year in a row, College Connect is host to a recipient of the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship- Manoj Adhikari- will attend Santa Clara University in the fall on a full-ride scholarship through college and will continue through graduate school. Scholarship funders will acknowledge the College Connect scholar recipients at the event.

This year also celebrates the graduation of College Connect's 2nd Cohort, with 8 students receiving their college degrees this spring. To date, College Connect students have raised $2,450,732 in scholarships, significantly reducing financial barriers to college success.

To commemorate the achievements of these 33 students, Sergio Romo will keynote this year's celebration. Well known for his skills on the baseball field, Romo is a strong supporter of undocumented students pursuing their college dreams through The Dream Is Now campaign. Romo will be joined on stage by NBC News anchor Damian Trujillo, sharing insight into achieving success in the face of many obstacles. As part of the program, Damian Trujillo will interview Sergio Romo on issues facing Latino and immigrant family as they prepare their children to get into and succeed in college.

ABOUT
Mission Graduates is a nonprofit organization that increases the number of K-12 students from San Francisco's Mission District who are prepared for and complete a college education. Mission Graduates is committed to getting more youth from the Mission District into college as a means to achieve economic equity and strengthen the fabric of the community.

MG works to fulfill its mission through a wide range of K-12 after-school, in-school, and summer programs that reach over 1,500 low-income children, youth, and families from San Francisco's Mission District each year. College education as an expectation and goal for every child is a theme woven throughout all of MG's programs that serve low-income youth and families from the Mission District.

Each year, College Connect recruits 25 4-year college-bound high school juniors from throughout the neighborhood who are first generation to attend college. This multi-year program provides structured, personalized college admissions support to students and their parents through high school graduation, as well as ongoing guidance during college.
Event Start Time: 6:30 pm
Event End Time: 8 p.m.

For More information on the organization or event, contact:

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