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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **SKYLINE COLLEGE HOSTS 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**

**San Bruno, California – May 14, 2014:** The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 23, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in the Skyline College Gymnasium, at 3300 College Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066, Building 3. A record total of 259 students will participate in the ceremony, the largest commencement ceremony in Skyline College history. A total of 1,267 degrees and certificates will be awarded to 904 students.

“Faculty, staff and administration look forward to commencement each year; it gives us a chance to celebrate academic achievements with students and their families. Many students have overcome challenges and persevered to accomplish this milestone and we could not be more proud of each and every graduate,” said Regina Stanback Stroud, Ed.D., President of Skyline College.

Anne Wilson, Chief Executive Officer, United Way of the Bay Area will deliver the commencement address. Anne joined United Way of the Bay Area in 1980 and was named the first female CEO in 2000. Under her leadership, United Way has transformed from a community fundraiser into a leader in the fight against poverty. Anne directs United Way’s efforts to achieve its ten-year goal of cutting Bay Area poverty in half by 2020. She has a Master’s of Social Welfare degree from the University of California at Berkeley and a Bachelor of Science degree from Syracuse University. For the past nine years, Anne has been named to The San Francisco Business Times’ annual list of Most Influential Women.

Skyline College student Jessca Gonzales, will speak at the commencement ceremony providing a student’s perspective on this milestone. Gonzales was born and raised in the Philippines and came to the United States 4 years ago. Coming from a disadvantaged background, Jessca never stopped dreaming that one day she would empower families and women who have gone through similar experiences. As a full time student, Jessca has made the Dean’s list each semester while working two to three jobs. She is involved in many organizations on campus and studied in the Paralegal Program. Her goal is to become a lawyer, but her next step is to continue her studies this fall at University of California Berkeley.

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A reception hosted by the Associated Students of Skyline College and the Center for Student Life and Leadership Development will be held immediately following the ceremony in the Student and Community Center located in Building 6. Students and family members are invited to attend and will be allowed admission on a first come first serve basis. Family, friends and loved ones unable to attend are invited to watch the commencement ceremony via our live feed on the Skyline College homepage at [www.skylinecollege.edu](http://www.skylinecollege.edu).

If you are a member of the media and would like to attend the ceremony, please contact Cherie Colin at (650) 738-4346.

For more information on commencement, please visit [www.skylinecollege.edu/commencement/index.php](http://www.skylinecollege.edu/commencement/index.php).

### **About Skyline College**

*Skyline College is an accredited, comprehensive California community college serving more than 10,000 students offering over 80 Associate Degree and Certificate programs. Located on a 111-acre campus overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Skyline College has offered world-class educational opportunities to residents from North San Mateo County and beyond since 1969. Part of the San Mateo Community College District, Skyline College strives to inspire a global and diverse community of learners to achieve intellectual, cultural, social, economic and personal fulfillment.*