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COLLEGES

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

## NEWS RELEASE

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July 2, 2013

# Mural from sister cities to be donated to Palo Alto College

Palo Alto College will receive a permanent art installation on behalf of the Alamo Colleges representing the bond between San Antonio and its sister cities in Mexico – Guadalajara and Monterrey. The gifted installation will be unveiled on Thursday, July 11, at 4 p.m. in the newly renovated Ozuna Library and Academic Center at Palo Alto College. A reception sponsored by IBC Bank will follow.

“We are very honored to receive this incredible gift,” said Alamo Colleges Chancellor Dr. Bruce Leslie. “As an institution of higher learning, we feel it’s important to celebrate the bond between our wonderful city and its Mexican heritage.”

The gift is part of the “Murals of Brotherhood” cultural and educational exchange program through the Centro Educativo Benjamin Franklin de Celaya, Guanajuato, A.C. (Benjamin Franklin Language Center) in Celaya, Guanajuato, Mexico. The program, which is recognized by the United States/Mexico Sister Cities Association, aims to strengthen sister city relationships by highlighting the role and effectiveness visual arts play in affecting social change. Previous murals through the exchange program have been donated to the cities of Laredo, Texas; El Monte, California; and San Gabriel, California.

“Palo Alto College is a active proponent of education through art and culture, and we’re very pleased to have been selected by the Benjamin Franklin Center as a recipient of this unique gift reflective of our cities and culture,” said the College’s president Dr. Mike Flores.

The mural, created by artist Roberto Rivera Novoa and his brother Ernesto Rivera Novoa to depict the bond between San Antonio and Mexico, will be donated through sponsorship by the Benjamin Franklin Language Center.

“The Murals of Brotherhood delivers a program of cultural exchange among sister city leaders including public service managers, local business leaders, and the voluntary and community sector,” said Viviana Isaias, Public Relations Representative for the Benjamin Franklin Language Center. “The program seeks to prompt new perspectives for participants on themselves, each other, the city and its people and to explore, through creative practice, new ways of connecting and working between sister cities.”

The mural unveiling will coincide with the 57th Annual Sister Cities International Conference on July 12 and 13 in San Antonio. Nearly 100 Mexican delegates will be on site for the mural’s reveal.

Palo Alto College, one of the Alamo Colleges, is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate degrees. With nearly 9,000 students, the College also offers short-term certificates and non-credit continuing education classes. The campus is located on the Southside of San Antonio at 1400 W. Villaret Blvd. at I-410 and Texas Hwy. 16 and online at [alamo.edu/pac](http://alamo.edu/pac).

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