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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Councilmember Jose Huizar Honors Top Students in District**

*Councilmember Huizar hosts an awards ceremony honoring 87 high-achieving students representing schools from throughout Council District 14*

**LOS ANGELES (June 20, 2009)** – Nearly 90 students from Northeast L.A., El Sereno, Boyle Heights and Downtown were honored today by Councilmember José Huizar after being selected as Adelante (Onward) Award recipients for academic and community achievement.

“A lot of these kids are excelling under challenging circumstances,” said Councilmember Huizar. “So when I say these young people are the leaders of the future, I really mean it. And today we’re here to give them the recognition they deserve and to let them and their families know that they’re efforts are not going unnoticed.”

The 87 students come from schools throughout the 14<sup>th</sup> District and are selected by the participating schools themselves.

The Adelante Awards, now in its sixth year, were created by Councilmember Huizar, a Boyle Heights native, while serving as a Los Angeles Unified School District Board Member to encourage high-achieving students involved in improving their communities to continue their efforts, all in the hopes of fostering leadership among youth.

At Saturday’s breakfast at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral, the elementary, middle and high school students and their parents enjoyed magic performed by Joseph Tran. They also heard encouraging words from Councilmember Huizar, Assemblymember John Perez, LAUSD Vice President Yolie Aguilar Flores and Victor Franco, Vice President, Community Affairs and Media Relations for the Telemundo Network.

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