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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Feb. 18, 2014

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MONTEBELLO UNIFIED STUDENT TO REPRESENT REGION IN STATEWIDE ARTS COMPETITION

MONTEBELLO, CA – A Schurr High School sophomore has been selected to compete in a statewide art competition after receiving top honors at the local and regional levels.

Robert Miranda, 15, was selected to represent Montebello Unified in the regional contest for the California Parent Teacher’s Association’s Annual Reflections Arts Recognition Program last month. His poetry entry in the literature category was selected in the contest that included entries from 26 other school districts. His piece is now being evaluated at the state level as he prepares to be recognized at a special luncheon later this month.

“This poem represents the way that artists and writers view the world,” Miranda said. “Through allusions and descriptions, I’m able to show how I view the world through the eyes of an artist. I consider myself an artist and this poem is just a way to show others how we, perhaps, view the world.”

The sophomore said he was encouraged by two of his English teachers to enter the contest so that he could showcase his work.

“I want to congratulate Mr. Miranda on this achievement,” said MUSD Board of Education President David Vela. “The arts are such an integral piece of a well-rounded education and it’s great to see our students embracing their creative abilities.”

Miranda has been creative writing for the past three years, has completed one novel and has also written several short stories and poems. He plans to attend college following his high school graduation and hopes to one day to publish a novel.

“Mr. Miranda serves as a wonderful example, showing that our students can accomplish so much by doing what they love,” said MUSD Superintendent of Education Susanna Contreras Smith. “I encourage all of our students to hold high expectations for themselves and constantly work hard to pursue their goals.”

ATTACHMENT: Robert Miranda’s Reflections Contest poetry entry.

PHOTO CAPTION: Robert Miranda, 15, stands with Joe Chaides, Montebello Council Parent Teacher Association president.

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Montebello Unified School District is a dynamic learning institution employing top-quality educators. It is the combined work of many that allows the District to continue educating more than 30,000 students every year using the 40 Developmental Assets at all of our school sites. It is through everyone's efforts – students, parents, teachers, staff and administrators – that we are achieving the District's number one goal of raising student achievement. Learn more online at: www.mhs.montebello.k12.ca.us.