



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **High-Achieving Fresno County High School Students Still Relishing Prizes Won at the 3rd Annual 4.0 & Above Program at The Big Fresno Fair**

*Prizes included a new 2014 Toyota Corolla S, \$30,000 in scholarships, iPads, bikes and more!*

**Fresno, California – December 13, 2013:** The Big Fresno Fair and Fresno County Office of Education, along with valued sponsors Friends of the Fair, EECU, Toyota and Univision Fresno celebrated the high-achieving Fresno County students at the 4.0 & Above Program, held October 2 at The Big Fresno Fair! Now, more than two months later, 22 students are still overjoyed with their wins at the event! None more thrilled than Victor Quintos from Central East High School who proudly walked away with a new 2014 Toyota Corolla S because of his impressive scholastic achievement of maintaining a 4.208 GPA. Victor officially drove off the car lot with his new slate grey Toyota Corolla S on Saturday, November 30.

This year, 5,000 Fresno County students, family, friends and school officials packed the Grandstand for the official drawing on Opening Day of the Fair. Out of the 52 schools invited to the 4.0 & Above Program awards ceremony, 46 schools attended with the hopes that their students will walk away with prizes. Sanger High School had the highest number of winners with six students walking away with scholarships, bikes and iPads. Below is a complete list of winners for 2013:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Prize</u>	<u>High School</u>
Victor Quintos	2014 Toyota Corolla S	Central East
Vincent Strykers	Bob & Brent Smittcamp Scholarship - \$3,000	Sanger High
Elizabeth Dominguez	Bob & Brent Smittcamp Scholarship - \$3,000	Roosevelt High
Mitchel Stokes	Butler Amusements Scholarship - \$3,000	Buchanan High
Shaelyn Topolovec	Fresno Police Officers Association Scholarship - \$3,000	Sanger High
Melese Crozier	Gayle Shapazian Baddin Scholarship - \$3,000	Edison High
Andrew Marrash	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Der Manouel Jr. and Lisa & John Bonadelle Joint Scholarship- \$3,000	Sanger High
Brandon Haroldsen	Vartan Family Scholarship-\$3,000	Kingsburg High
Madeline Kumagai	Yrulegui Family Scholarship-\$3,000	University High
Alyssa Valdivia	Credit Card Guys, Inc. Scholarship-\$3,000	Edison High
Vanessa Balanon	The Mid-Valley Disposal Scholarship- \$3,000	Sanger High
Melanie Nguyen	Mongoose Mountain Bike	Clovis West
Angela E. Rivas	Mongoose Mountain Bike	Orange Cove
Ryan Chen	Schwinn Mountain Bike	Sanger High
Megan Chumley	Mongoose Mountain Bike	Sunnyside High
Daniel Rangel	Genesis Mountain Bike	Firebaugh High
Aaron Grisez	Schwinn Mountain Bike	Buchanan High
Malik Mendoza	Apple iPad	Clovis West
Desirae Vazquez	Apple iPad	Sanger High
Jennifer Lugo	\$100 Visa Gift Card	Edison High
Maverick Howard	\$100 Visa Gift Card	Immanuel High
Emily Veith	\$100 Visa Gift Card	Central East

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“Each year we look forward to honoring these future leaders of our community and this year was exceptionally great!” exclaimed John C. Alkire, CEO of The Big Fresno Fair. “We were able to give away even more scholarships because of the great support of our community. We thank our sponsors and community supporters whole-heartedly and look forward to continuing this program in 2014, rewarding even more of these high-achieving Fresno County high school students and giving them something to look forward to each year.”

The 4.0 & Above Program invited all Fresno County high school students whose cumulative GPA is 4.0 or above as of June 2013 to The Big Fresno Fair for free on Opening Day, Wednesday, October 2, 2013. All qualified students in attendance had the opportunity to enter-to-win a 2014 Toyota Corolla S, scholarships and other assorted prizes at a rally-like presentation in the Brian I. Tatarian Grandstand as a reward for their academic success. This program allows the Fair and its partners to recognize these students for all their hard work and incredible scholastic achievements. It also provides the opportunity for all Fresno County school district superintendents, their board presidents, plus each public, private and charter high school principal and their campus culture directors to encourage students to work hard all year round to keep up their grades for a lifetime of rewards.

For official rules and presentation details of this year’s Program, visit [www.fresnofair.com/4-0-above-program](http://www.fresnofair.com/4-0-above-program).

#### **About The Big Fresno Fair:**

The Big Fresno Fair, founded in 1884, is the fifth largest fair in the State of California and represents the 21st District Agricultural Association. More than 600,000 people from throughout the State visit The Big Fresno Fair each year making it the largest event in the Central Valley. Members of the Board of Directors include: Elizabeth Hudson, President; AJ Yates, Vice President; Debbie Jacobsen, Secretary/Treasurer; William White; Jerry Pacheco; Leta Ciavaglia; Larry Serpa; and Fue “Ricky” Vang. John C. Alkire heads the daily operations in his role as CEO. The 2014 Big Fresno Fair will run October 1 – 13. For more information, please visit [www.FresnoFair.com](http://www.FresnoFair.com).

#### **Attachments:**

- Victor Quintos picking up his new car on November 30, 2013.
- 4.0 & Above Logo



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