San Diego (May 20, 2013) — San Diego City College will hold its 99th commencement exercises at the outdoor Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park on Friday, May 24 at 5:00 p.m. of the 1,000 associate degrees and certificates awarded, the most popular disciplines include Language Arts & Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Nursing Education. More than a quarter of the 2013 class will graduate with Honors (3.50-3.74 GPA), High Honors (3.75-3.99) or Highest Honors (4.0 GPA). Twenty-eight students will receive two or more degrees.

Nearly 400 graduates from ages 19 to 71 are expected to participate in the commencement activities.

The youngest graduate is Lovely Dianne Highley, age 19. Lovely will be graduating with honors in Liberal Arts and Sciences with an emphasis in Language Arts and Humanities. She plans to obtain a bachelor’s degree in communications at the University of Hawaii at Manoa then transfer to the University of Southern California to pursue a master’s degree in broadcast journalism.

The most senior graduate is Samuel Cummings, age 71. Samuel, a Navy Veteran, will be graduating with a Certificate in Alcohol and Other Drug Studies. Hearing challenged, Samuel said he accomplished his educational goals with the aid of learning tools and a note taker provided through the college’s Disabled Veterans Office.

City College graduates are from a number of states, including Arizona, California, Florida, Hawaii, Maine, Michigan, Montana, and Nevada; and different countries, including Brazil, Germany, Indonesia, and Nepal.

GRADUATION HONOREES
STUDENT SPEAKER, CHANCELLOR’S SCHOLARSHIP,
TEACHER OF THE YEAR, JACK KENT COOKE SCHOLAR

STUDENT SPEAKER
Daniel Caldera, the City College associated student president is the student commencement speaker. A 21-year-old transfer student in Mathematics, Daniel plans to attend UCSD to complete his bachelor’s degree in cognitive science with a specialization in human-computer interaction and a minor in Chinese Studies. He would like to become a project manager or software engineer to develop technologies to assist in therapies for helping individuals cope and overcome mental illnesses.
CHANCELLOR’S SCHOLARSHIP
Breanna Hunter, a nursing major, is the 2013 Chancellor’s Scholarship Recipient. Graduating in 2014, Hunter plans to continue her nursing studies at San Diego State University. After obtaining a master’s degree, Breanna wants to become a Nurse Practitioner specializing in either the neonatal, maternity and delivery department or pediatrics.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR
Susan Korsedal, associate professor of nursing, was selected by her students to receive the Golden Apple Award for Teacher of the Year. Susan’s nursing credentials include a LVN from Mott Community College in Flint Michigan; a bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan; and a master’s degree from Michigan State University. She will become a full professor at City College in the fall of 2013.

Prior to coming to City College in 2008, Susan was a staff nurse for over 20 years in critical care, with additional work in hospice and rehabilitation nursing. On being named Teacher of the Year Susan said, “It is a great honor to receive this award from our Nursing Students as there are some really great instructors at City College to choose from.” She says she has been “lucky enough to be part of a great department where we look at how we can work together to improve all aspects of our nursing program.”

Dr. Terry Burgess, retiring San Diego City College president said, “Susan works every day to help ensure our nursing students receive the best instruction possible. Receiving the Golden Apple Award shows how much her students appreciate her commitment to their academic and professional careers.” Susan is married, with three grown children and one grandchild.

JACK KENT COOKE SCHOLARSHIP
City College graduate Angel Monroy Aparicio, 22, is one of 73 Scholars in the nation selected this year to receive the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Graduating with Honors, Angel will earn his associate degree in social sciences and history. Angel will transfer to Santa Clara University with plans to pursue a master’s degree and doctorate in sociology.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship is the largest scholarship of its kind in the nation. Recipients can receive awards of up to $30,000 annually for up to three years to pursue four-year degrees at any accredited college or university in the United States and abroad. Awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional promise and who have financial need, the scholarships can provide funding for tuition, room, board, required fees, and books for the length of the undergraduate degree.

About San Diego City College: Founded in 1914, San Diego City College will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2014. Serving as the educational cornerstone of downtown San Diego, City College offers more than 200 degrees and certificates, and 1,500 day, evening, weekend and online courses. City College is part of the San Diego Community College District, comprised of City College, Mesa College, Miramar College, and Continuing Education. For more information, visit: www.sdcity.edu/centennial.