



PROVIDING STEM EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND RECOGNITION PROGRAMS THAT
CREATE AWARENESS, ADVOCATE READINESS, AND CELEBRATE SUCCESS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Great Minds in STEM Honored with Community Special Recognition Award from the Pasadena City College Foundation

Montebello, CA – June 15, 2018 – Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) Chairman and Founder, Ray Mellado will be receiving the Community Special Recognition Award from the Pasadena City College (PCC) Foundation for its extensive partnership with PCC and the Pasadena community. Every year PCC honors a staff, a faculty and a community partner to recognize extraordinary partners in advancing student success. These are the highest awards given at the College.

The award will be presented on Friday, June 15, 2018, during the Annual Pre-Commencement Reception, which will be held at the Boone Family Art Gallery Center for the Arts at Pasadena Community College. The reception begins at 5:00 PM. Thereafter, Mr. Mellado will join the Commencement Ceremonies as a special guest.

GMiS has held a long-standing relationship with the Pasadena community – including PCC, NASA JPL, Caltech, the Rose Bowl, and local middle and high schools - to advance the academic and career success of underserved and underrepresented students. More recently, in 2015 and 2017, GMiS held its annual HENAAC Conference in Pasadena, each year convening nearly 3,000 STEM executives and professionals from Fortune 300 companies, research labs and government agencies; administrators, faculty and students from over 120 U.S. higher education institutions; and K-12 educators and students from Pasadena and Los Angeles.

In 2017, GMiS recognized Pasadena City College alumna Dr. Adriana C. Ocampo, as Scientist of the Year. A prominent STEM Role Model, Dr. Ocampo is the Lead Program Executive, for the New Frontier Program Science Mission Directorate, in the Planetary Science Division at NASA Headquarters, where she is responsible for the \$1B Juno mission to Jupiter and the New Horizons mission to Pluto.

This year, GMiS will proudly hosts its 30th Anniversary HENAAC Conference at the Pasadena Convention Center, from October 18 – 21, 2018. “As Founder and Chairman of GMiS, over the last 30 years, I have found that a STEM education is the most sustainable form of social justice I have seen,” affirms Mr. Mellado. “A STEM education guarantees you great socioeconomic mobility over a lifetime and prepares you for leadership in the 21st century.”

About Great Minds in STEM™

Great Minds in STEM™ is a national 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles County with a 30-year history of keeping America technologically strong through the delivery of national STEM awareness programs especially to underserved communities. Through GMiS, academic, career and mentoring opportunities are building a diverse 21st Century STEM workforce.

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