For Immediate Release  
January 26, 2015

City of Richmond, Richmond Promise Inc., Chevron U.S.A. and West Contra Costa Unified School District Announce Launch of Richmond Promise Scholarship Program

<table>
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<tr>
<th>What:</th>
<th>News Conference announcing the launch of the $35 million scholarship program to help Richmond students pay for higher education</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who:</td>
<td>Richmond Mayor Tom Butt; members of the City Council; Richmond City Manager Bill Lindsay; West County School Board President Randall Enos; WCCUSD Board Members; WCCUSD Superintendent Dr. Bruce Harter; Chevron Richmond Public Affairs Manager Patty Canessa; Alize Johnson, senior at Kennedy High School; Kennedy High School students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When:</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 26, 2015</td>
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| Where: | Kennedy High School Fab Lab  
4300 Cutting Blvd., Richmond, CA 94804, |

Richmond, Calif. – The highly anticipated Richmond Promise Scholarship Program – which will provide all students residing in Richmond and unincorporated North Richmond with up to $1,500 per year for college – will begin accepting applications on January 26. To commemorate the program’s launch, elected officials and community leaders will be on hand as seniors from Kennedy High School begin completing their online scholarship applications. Additionally, the City of Richmond will announce and introduce the new Executive Director that will lead the non-profit organization created to manage the program.

“Although the Richmond Promise will provide Richmond students with financial support for college, the Promise is much more than simply a scholarship program,” said Richmond Mayor Tom Butt. “The Promise will create a strong college-going culture in Richmond, prepare our youth for future career opportunities, and improve local residents’ health and quality of life by reducing stress associated with low economic opportunities.”

Modeled after successful place-based scholarships across the nation, including Kalamazoo, Michigan and El Dorado, Arkansas, the Richmond Promise is designed to provide academic, social and financial support to help students become college and career ready. Ultimately, the program aims to increase the proportion of Richmond students who access college readiness preparation, graduate from high school, are University of California and California State University eligible, attend accredited four year universities and community college, and complete a bachelor’s degree, associate’s degree, or career and technical education certificate.

“Staff researched and interviewed approximately 20 different Promise programs from across the United States, but it was the input and engagement of the Richmond community that allowed us to create a
program to meet the needs of our local youth,” remarked Richmond City Manager Bill Lindsay. “The Richmond Promise is on track to become among the largest Promise programs in the US, and the first in California to offer its students both continued financial and academic support.”

Chevron Richmond agreed to provide the entire $35 million initial investment, over ten years, for the Richmond Promise. The funding is part of a $90 million Environmental and Community Investment Agreement that includes investments in community programs, competitive community grants, community-based greenhouse gas reduction programs and a photovoltaic solar farm. City officials intend for the seed money to act as a foundation for larger philanthropic and donor support that can help thousands more Richmond youth obtain higher education and compete for well-paying careers.

“Few factors are more important to the future success of our refinery and this community than having highly-skilled and well-educated citizens,” said Patty Canessa, Public Affairs Manager of Chevron’s Richmond Refinery. “We know that a trained workforce leads to economic growth for the City and develops future candidates for refinery jobs. By investing in this program, we are proud to increase the access to and the quality of career and technical training for students in Richmond.”

The maximum amount of the scholarship award that a student could receive will depend on the student’s length of time as a Richmond resident, attendance at an eligible school and attendance during high school. This structured the award amount ensures that the program supports investment in youth who have resided in Richmond the longest. It also reinforces positive attendance initiatives from the District and local community based organizations.

“The financial and academic initiatives of the Richmond Promise will lend our students additional resources to prepare for college and be successful once they get there,” WCCUSD Board President Randy Enos said. “The District reaffirms its commitment to create a college-going culture at each of its schools and looks forward to working with its partners to ensure that all students are prepared and eligible to attend the college of their choice.”

The newly established Richmond Promise Inc. is responsible for managing the implementation of the program. Scholarship America, the nation’s largest provider of private scholarships and education assistance programs, will assist Richmond Promise Inc. in processing applications, verifying requirements and making scholarship payments to schools.

Additional details and applications are available at www.richmondpromise.org.

About Richmond Promise Inc.
The Richmond Promise is 501(c)3 non-profit formed by the City of Richmond, CA and Chevron Corp. to provide local students with academic and financial support they will need to succeed in college and obtain well-paid employment.

About Scholarship America
Scholarship America, the nation’s largest provider of private scholarships and education assistance programs, will assist the Richmond Promise in processing applications, verifying requirements and making scholarship payments to schools. Since 1958, Scholarship America has helped more than 2 million deserving students attend and complete their education beyond high school. The organization is consistently recommended by charity ranking organization and news media for its fiscal responsibility, including as a four-star charity by Charity Navigator, CharityWatch and the Charities Review Council, and publications ranging from Forbes to Consumers Digest to The Nonprofit Times.

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