

# SHUT DOWN CALIFORNIA ON MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>!

## HELP ORGANIZE THE BOYCOTT OF ALL SCHOOLS!

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- Defend Public Education at All Levels!
- No More Fee Hikes! No Program, Faculty or Staff Cuts in Higher Education!
  - A Massive Increase in federal funding for public higher education!
  - Defend public education from K thru 12! No More Charters!
  - Pass the Dream Act Now! Create Campus-Based Dream Scholarships to Provide Financial Aid for Undocumented Students!
- Stop the Resegregation of Higher Education! Increase Underrepresented Minority Student Enrollment – Restore Affirmative Action Now! No More Separate and Unequal! Overturn Prop 209!
- No More Second-Class Treatment of Latina/o Students and Students with and without papers – Make UCLA a Sanctuary Campus!
  - Build the New Civil Rights and Student Movement!

***RALLY at UCLA BRUIN PLAZA***

**Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon**

***rally to be followed by march***

**\*\*Come to UCLA or organize a boycott and march in your area\*\***

[www.MySpace.com/DefendPublicEducation](http://www.MySpace.com/DefendPublicEducation)

On November 18th and 19th, at the UC Regents' meeting, students at UCLA – led by Latina/o and black students united with Asian, Arab, Native American and white students – was responsible for launching a new student movement that can fight to defend public education and that can turn UCLA and the other UC campuses into not only world renowned centers of excellence, but into a set of affordable, integrated sanctuary campuses that have a significantly large number of Latina/o, black, undocumented, poor, working class and middle class students in attendance. California is currently experiencing an unprecedented set of attacks from k-12 schools through all public colleges and universities. They must be defeated, and can be if we fight.

The strength of the leadership that students provided during the protests succeeded in defending the right to public higher education for the poorest students at the University of California – the Regents voted to offer full scholarships for students whose families make less than \$70,000 a year. In addition, the Board of Regents voted to assist with the re-opening of King Drew Hospital for Watts and South Central Los Angeles, making UCLA more accountable to the black and Latina/o communities of Los Angeles. In the days following the protest action UCLA, Chancellor Gene Block stated his commitment to creating privately funded “Dream Scholarships” for undocumented students. The job of the new student movement is to make sure this promise becomes a reality.

>>>see reverse side>>>

The success of the actions at UCLA sparked student actions throughout the state on other campuses in the days and weeks following the Regents meeting, including building occupations and mass protests. Now, in response to the student protests Governor Schwarzenegger's 2010 budget proposal does not include any further reductions in funding for higher education. However, his latest budget proposal includes a massive reduction in Medicaid funding and vital state-funded welfare programs. Our movement must demand massive federal funding for higher education so that the needs of students in the state are not counterposed to the needs of poor young mothers and children who have relied on Medicaid and welfare and other welfare programs to increase their possibility for education and success in our state.

The unity in action that was achieved during those two days must be strengthened. Los Angeles must lead the state! The UCLA administration is looking at students' applications now and we can impact the decisions they will be making and increase the enrollment at UCLA of black, Latina/o and other underrepresented minority students, and succeed in creating campus-based "Dream Scholarships" to finance the cost of tuition and other fees for undocumented students. Mass mobilizations across California on March 4th can strengthen this, the new civil rights and student movement. Together we will win!

### **Also endorsing the March 4th Day of Action to Defend Public Education:**

United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA), California Teachers Association (CTA), California Federation of Teachers (CFT), the LA County Federation of Labor, the San Francisco Central Labor Council, Oakland Education Association, AFSCME Local 444: East Bay Municipal Utility District, Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC), Association of Raza Educators, California State University Employees Union, and other unions and organizations across the state.

## **February 23rd - REMEMBER the DATE - PROTEST at the LAUSD Board Meeting:**

**On Feb 23, LA's School Board is planning to vote to endorse Superintendent Cortines' recommendations regarding which charter school company will take over each of the schools up for bid this year. Over the next few years, they plan on handing over almost 300 schools across the district to private charter school companies.**

**The right of every child living in America to receive a public education is a right most Americans take for granted and could not imagine losing. The national campaign being spearheaded by Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education, to create a new, parallel, privately controlled, profit-driven system of 5000 charter schools, which will be publicly subsidized but minimally regulated, will eviscerate this right.**

**Private takeovers and the spread of charter schools intensify the level of racial segregation in our district. We must stand on the promise of Brown v Board of Education – equal, integrated education for all. For the last 30 years, magnet schools in LAUSD have proven to be the best method to improve education and foster integration for LA's students. A massive district-wide expansion of magnet school programs would improve our schools more than any charter or privatization plan ever could.**

**Organize students from your school to march down to 333 South Beaudry [the School Board headquarters in downtown] on the morning of Feb 23 and make your voices heard! We Demand Equal, Quality Public Education for All! We Demand a Massive Increase in Federal Funding for Public Education!**

**Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action, Integration & Immigrant Rights  
and Fight for Equality By Any Means Necessary**

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