**Mission**
To increase the number of educationally underserved students who enroll in four-year colleges and universities, earn degrees, and return to the community as leaders and mentors to future generations.

**Founded**
1981 by Felix Galaviz and Patricia McGrath, currently executive co-directors.

**Scope**
- 37 community colleges and 31 high schools throughout California
- Students served annually: 8,000 directly, 63,000 through the extended impact of Puente training; to date: over 20,000 directly, over 281,000 through the extended impact of Puente training services.

**Student Program**
Accelerated Writing • Academic Counseling • Community Mentoring

**Training**
Comprehensive, year-round training in innovative and effective methodologies for teachers, counselors, and mentors.

**Community**
Over 400 organizations and 4,000 professionals donate time and resources annually to Puente students and sites.

**Results**
Puente high school students enrolled at four-year colleges and universities at twice the rate of matched controls.¹ Term-to-term retention of Puente community college students is 92%, compared with 60% for community college students statewide.²

**Sponsors**
The California Community Colleges and the University of California

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² Source: The Puente Project, 1997