New York, NY December 2, 2015- The Window of Educational Opportunities, a joint project of the Consulate General of Mexico in New York, the Jaime Lucero Mexican Studies Institute at CUNY and the Juntos Podemos organization, had its official opening ceremony, November 30, 2015. Its objective is to offer to the users of the Consulate advice and information on how to navigate the education system in New York City, a crucial skill for the advancement of the Mexican community, New York’s fastest growing national origin group.

As part of the event, held at the Consulate General of Mexico in New York, the IME Becas/Juntos Podemos fellowship grants were also presented. A program of the Institute of Mexicans Abroad, IME Becas support students to continue their studies and achieve their academic goals. This time, with the support of Juntos Podemos, the total amount of grants distributed to nine educational institutions in New York was $250,000 dollars. The Jaime Lucero Mexican Studies Institute received for its annual scholarship program, CUNY Becas, the amount of $ 112,687 dollars.

At the ceremony, Ambassador Sandra Fuentes-Berain, head of the consular representation, said the establishment of this Window is a key step to offer comprehensive services that facilitate the integration of our migrants. As such, we are the first Consulate to operate three information windows that target special needs of our community: education, health and financial education.

Josefina Vázquez Mota, honorary president of Juntos Podemos, spoke of the interest of her organization to support and encourage the migrant community, stating that "students carry in their backpacks not only their dreams, but also those of their parents and grandparents".

The ceremony was also attended by CUNY Chancellor, James B. Milliken, and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Jay Hershenson, who expressed the interest and commitment of the university to continue its close work with the Mexican community of New York.
In its mission to provide accurate and reliable information to the community, the Window implements tools like NYCEdúcate.org, a bilingual web portal created with the support of Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, whose goal is to facilitate access and knowledge of the education system of the city of New York. Similarly, the window will develop informational workshops along with educational organizations. In this way, parents and students will have knowledge to navigate the opportunities, resources and services available from early childhood to adult education. In addition to providing information, the window seeks to empower the participation of families in the educational system, actively involving students and their families in this matter.

"With this project we seek to continue supporting the efforts of Mexicans in New York to achieve their educational aspirations", Alyshia Gálvez, director of Jaime Lucero Mexican Studies Institute said. "Education is key to economic, political and social empowerment. It begins at birth, but it is important to also send a message to parents that it is never too late for them to further their own education."

The Window for Educational Opportunities is open to the public on the third floor of the Consulate General of Mexico in New York, located at 27 East 39th St., Monday through Friday, from 10 am to 3 pm.