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El Camino College | Public Relations & Marketing Department
16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506
Contact: Ann M. Garten, Director, Community Relations
Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | E-Mail: agarten@elcamino.edu

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El Camino College to Celebrate Spring with Annual Cherry Blossom Festival

El Camino College's Ninth Annual Cherry Blossom Festival is set to run from 1 to 2 p.m. March 3 on campus, next to the planetarium and the cherry trees.

The annual "Dr. Nadine Ishitani Hata Memorial Cherry Blossom Festival" event is named after the college's former Vice President of Academic Affairs, who passed away in 2005. Dr. Hata was an internationally known scholar who was extremely involved in academia and community work. She was instrumental in bringing the cherry trees to the campus nine years ago, one of the many programs she supported during her 34-year career at El Camino College.

Under Dr. Hata's leadership, the Cherry Blossom Festival has become a college tradition – a way to ring in the spring season and celebrate friendship.

The winner of the 2009 Dr. Nadine Ishitani Hata Memorial Scholarship will be announced at the event. Presentations of haiku poems by students and performances will also be featured, along with light refreshments.

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