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El Camino College Plans Women History Events; Seeks Nominations for 2010 Women of Distinction Award

A variety of events are planned at El Camino College to celebrate Women's History Month throughout March. The overarching theme for March 2010 is: "Writing Women Back into History," in celebration of Women's History Month's 30th Anniversary.

A Women's History Month luncheon on March 5 leads the list of events at El Camino College, featuring guest speaker, award-winning author Icy Smith (Sui Bing Tang).

In her acclaimed book, "The Lonely Queue: The Forgotten History of the Courageous Chinese Americans in Los Angeles," Smith documents the remarkable story of the struggle and triumph of Chinese Americans in Southern California over 150 years. "The Lonely Queue" was named the 2002 Clarion Award Winner for best nonfiction book. Another book, "Mei Ling in China City," is an unprecedented historical fiction about the history of Los Angeles China City during World War II. Smith's newest children's book "Half Spoon of Rice" presents a child's account of life in Cambodia during the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime in the mid-1970s. The luncheon is scheduled from noon to 2 p.m. March 5 in the El Camino College Communications Building, Room 104. Tickets cost \$15 each.

Other events are planned throughout the month, including panel discussions on women in non-traditional roles, domestic violence, and women in history. For reservations to the luncheon, or for details about upcoming events, click on <http://www.elcamino.edu/whm.asp>.

Women's History Month provides an excellent opportunity to recognize and celebrate women's historic achievements as well as an opportunity to honor women for their contributions to our communities. Members of the El Camino College Women's History Month Committee at El Camino College are doing just that – in seeking nominees for the 2010 Women of Distinction Award.

Nominations can be made by friends, family, and colleagues; or individuals may nominate themselves. Nominees will be judged for their contributions to the community in one or more of the following areas: professional accomplishments; leadership and/or mentorship; and social, educational, or health services.

Those nominated must also live or work in the communities within the El Camino Community College District: El Segundo, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Lennox, Inglewood, Hawthorne, and Torrance.

The leaders will be honored at the annual Women's Wall of Fame Program set for March 23. Their accomplishments also will be featured on the El Camino College Women's Wall of Fame throughout the year and their names will be engraved on a plaque that remains on the wall permanently.

The nomination deadline is March 12. For a nomination form or more information, go to <http://www.elcamino.edu/whm.asp>; or call 310-660-3868.