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For Immediate Release

November 5, 2010

El Camino College to Present Benefit Performance by Recording Star and ECC Alumnus Chris Montez

El Camino College will present a performance by recording star and ECC alumnus Chris Montez at 8 p.m. Nov. 19 in Marsee Auditorium to benefit the El Camino College Foundation and the Friends of the El Camino College Library's Living Archives Project.

Montez achieved world-wide recognition in the '60s and '70s with hits like "Call Me," "Let's Dance," and "The More I See You." He grew up in Hawthorne, graduated from Hawthorne High School, and attended El Camino College.

In 1963, Montez co-headlined a European concert tour with fellow American Tommy Roe, featuring an opening act by a new group from England called The Beatles.

Chris has maintained a career in the international spotlight with English and Spanish recordings, and enjoys a dedicated following in Asia and Europe as well as across North America. Between tours, Chris has continued to evolve as an artist, integrating the influence of his Hispanic culture with a rich rhythm & blues tradition to create his own unique and enduring musical style.

In addition to the live performance by Montez, the program will also include a 35-minute sneak preview of an upcoming documentary about the singer. The film, titled "El Viaje Musical de Ezekiel Montanez: The Chris Montez Story," is produced by Frozen Pictures.

Sharing the bill with Montez at the ECC performance is Help Light, a band that fashioned its sound by incorporating the best musical elements from the '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s. Help Light's musicianship and songwriting has earned high praise and admiration from a long list of fans and industry insiders, including former Beatles producer and arranger George Martin.

The concert is a fundraiser for the El Camino College Foundation and the Friends of the El Camino College Library's Living Archives Project. This new endeavor is designed to preserve the college's history by inviting alumni and other supporters back to the college to share their past experiences with current and future students. In addition, the guests will continue to make history at the college. "History making history" is key to the Living Archives Project, adding to the rich legacy of ECC with active participation in the objective of enhancing the academic well-being of the college community.

General admission is \$25; campus parking costs \$2. For tickets call: 310-329-5345 or toll free at 800-832-ARTS, or visit the Marsee Auditorium Box Office, 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday – Friday.

For more information call Ed Martinez at 310-660-3593, x3876, or emartinez@elcamino.edu.

NOTE: Chris Montez, along with members of Help Light and "The Chris Montez Story" Director Burt Kearns, will be available for press interviews in the days leading up to the show.