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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](mailto:agarten@elcamino.edu)

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## El Camino College to Celebrate Spring with Annual Cherry Blossom Festival

El Camino College's 11th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival is scheduled to run from 1 to 2 p.m. March 8 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 11 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 2011 Dr. Nadine Ishitani Hata Memorial Scholarship will be announced at the event. Presentations such as a performance by the Taiko Drummers from the Taiko Center of Los Angeles will also be featured, along with light refreshments. The Cherry Blossom Festival is sponsored by the El Camino College Foundation and the Office of Staff and Student Diversity.

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