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**For Immediate Release**

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## **El Camino College Schedules Events for Women's History Month**

El Camino College has scheduled a variety of Women's History Month events throughout March. This year recognizes the extraordinary and often unrecognized determination and tenacity of women with the national theme: "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment."

Against social convention and often legal restraints, women have demonstrated character, courage, and commitment as mothers, educators, institution builders, business, labor, political and community leaders, relief workers, women religious, and CEOs throughout history.

The celebration begins with the ECC Women's History Month luncheon from 12:30 to 2 p.m. March 7 in the college's Alondra Room. In keeping with this year's theme, five women veterans (ECC employees, students, and off-campus guests) will share their military experiences. The guest speakers will discuss why they chose to serve our country, how it impacted their lives, and in some cases, why they are returning to college.

Women's History Month events continue with a screening of the film "Girl Rising" from 1 to 3 p.m. March 11 in the East Dining Room. This groundbreaking film directed by Academy Award nominee Richard Robbins, tells the stories of nine extraordinary girls from nine countries, written by nine celebrated writers and narrated by nine renowned actresses. "Girl Rising" showcases the strength of the human spirit and the power of education to change the world.

A "Girls in the Garage – All-Girl Car Show & Vintage Fashion Exchange" is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 15 in Parking Lots J & K. Admission is free for spectators; car show participants will be charged \$10 per car. Vehicle registration is open to any female-owned car, truck, or motorcycle - any year, in any condition. To register and for more information contact: [pfairchild@elcamino.edu](mailto:pfairchild@elcamino.edu).

In addition, a tea and book discussion is scheduled for 1-2 p.m. March 27, covering the book "My Beloved World" by Sonia Sotomayor, the first Hispanic and third woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court. In this book, Sotomayor recounts her life from a Bronx housing project to the federal bench, a journey that offers an inspiring testament to her own extraordinary determination and the power of believing in oneself.

Another highlight of Women's History Month is the El Camino College Women's Wall of Fame Reception at 1 p.m. March 26, where the 2014 Women of Distinction will be honored. This award recognizes outstanding women from the El Camino College area, honoring them for their contributions to the community.

The Women's History Month Committee is seeking nominations for the 2014 Women of Distinction Award. Nominations may be made by friends, family, and colleagues; or individuals may nominate themselves. Nominees will be judged for their contributions 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. The nomination deadline is March 7.

Women's History Month activities are sponsored by The El Camino College Office of Professional Development, Staff and Student Diversity, and the Women's History Month Committee.

To nominate a candidate, or for a full list of Women's History Month activities, go to [www.elcamino.edu/events/whm.asp](http://www.elcamino.edu/events/whm.asp) or call 310-660-3868.

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