



NEWS

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El Camino College to Celebrate 2014 Distinguished Alumni Honorees

El Camino College will honor four outstanding alumni at the 2014 Distinguished Alumni Awards, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. October 4 in the college's East Dining Room. Honorees include Monica Fredericks, educator; Dr. Gregory Rafijah, assistant clinical professor; Ryan Stonebraker, California Highway Patrol captain; and Major General Megan Tatu, U.S. Army.

ECC Distinguished Alumni have shown outstanding achievement in their chosen career, service to the community, or area of endeavor, while gaining local, state, or national recognition for their involvement. Honorees were selected by a committee and represent the fields of art, medicine, politics, business, and education. The El Camino College Foundation chairs the committee and sponsors the biennial award ceremony.

El Camino College 2014 Distinguished Alumni Honorees include:

Monica Fredericks is a dedicated community volunteer and has supported many causes, starting at the young age of 7 years old. She is a founding member of Old Torrance Neighbors and served as a PTA board member, Los Angeles County poll worker and inspector, and a volunteer for the California Health Care Coalition. Fredericks was president of the Torrance Rotary "Anns" and the South Bay Cooperative Preschool. She attended El Camino College after high school and returned later to enroll in child development courses. She currently serves on the Torrance Education Foundation Board and has worked with students with a diagnosis of autism for more than a decade at the Torrance Unified School District.

Dr. Gregory Rafijah is an assistant clinical professor at UC Irvine School of Medicine's Department of Orthopedic Surgery as a specialist of hand, wrist and elbow disorders and microvascular surgery. He is actively involved in training residents and fellows, and has a very busy practice performing elective surgery and handling traumatic injuries. After ECC, Rafijah transferred to UC Irvine as a NCAA Division I track star. With his ECC team, he still holds the 4 x 1 mile relay record. He also still holds a record at UC Irvine. He earned a medical degree from The Chicago Medical School and then returned to the South Bay for residency training in Orthopedic Surgery at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) **Captain Ryan "Stoney" Stonebraker** is the commander of the CHP Truckee area. His law enforcement career spans 22 years; he has worked in several CHP field offices, was a member of a violent gang suppression task force and was also an internal affairs investigator. He was the commander/executive director of the California State Threat Assessment Center, and chairman of the California State Threat Assessment System.

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He also served as the state's representative for intelligence matters across the nation. After ECC, Stonebraker earned a bachelor's degree in business management and a master's degree in negotiation, conflict resolution and peacebuilding. In addition, Captain Stonebraker routinely instructs new CHP managers in conflict resolution.

Throughout her more than 35 years of active and reserve service, **Major General Megan Tatu** has commanded at every level, from platoon to division, with duty in Germany, Iraq and the United States. She currently serves as the Commanding General, 79th Sustainment Support Command, responsible for the command and control of more than 20,000 logistics soldiers in a 19-state region. After earning an associate degree at ECC, she continued her studies at UCLA, where she attended on an Army Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree. Tatu also completed the signal officer basic and advanced courses at Command and General Staff College, and earned a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

The El Camino College Foundation is a non-profit organization created in 1983 to support college programs, identify financial resources available within the community, and build collaborative partnerships, which make sharing of resources possible. For more information, call 310-660-3683 or go to www.elcamino.edu/foundation/.

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