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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 | Email: [agarten@elcamino.edu](mailto:agarten@elcamino.edu)

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## **El Camino College Alumnus and Grammy-Nominated Pianist/Composer David Benoit to Perform in Marsee Auditorium**

*Famed jazz musician to present original works and tributes to jazz heroes*

Contemporary jazz will be the focus of an upcoming concert presented by El Camino College alumnus and Grammy-nominated pianist and composer David Benoit.

Featuring original works and selections from jazz legends, “An Evening with David Benoit” is scheduled for 8 p.m. May 12 in El Camino College’s Marsee Auditorium.

Benoit will perform several of his works including “Every Step of the Way” and “Freedom at Midnight,” along with tributes to jazz piano heroes such as Bill Evans, Leonard Bernstein, Vince Guaraldi, and George Gershwin.

Since launching his recording career in 1977, Benoit’s expansive career as a contemporary jazz pianist has included over 25 solo recordings. His prolific output since 2000 includes several prominent Charlie Brown-related projects (including “Here’s to You, Charlie Brown: 50 Great Years” and the star-studded “40 Years: A Charlie Brown Christmas”) that reflect his lifelong passion for the music of original Peanuts composer Vince Guaraldi. His record “Every Step of the Way” was nominated for a Grammy Award, along with nominations for Best Instrumental Composition for “Dad’s Room” and Best Large Jazz Ensemble Performance for GRP All-Star Big Band.

Benoit’s other music endeavors include his ongoing role as conductor of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra and leading such eminent orchestras as the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the symphonies of London, Nuremberg, San Francisco, Atlanta, San Antonio and San Jose. Concurrent with his expanding career as a conductor, he recorded “American Landscape” in 1997 with the London Symphony Orchestra and “Orchestral Stories” in 2005 with members of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra and the Czech National Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets to “An Evening with David Benoit” are \$26 and may be purchased online at [centerforthearts.org](http://centerforthearts.org), or by phone at 1-800-832-ARTS. The Ticket Office is open Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Campus parking is \$3. Marsee Auditorium is located at 16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance.

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