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**For Immediate Release**

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

El Camino College's seventh annual "Dr. Nadine Ishitani Hata Memorial Cherry Blossom Festival," is set to run from 1 to 2 p.m. March 22 on campus, adjacent to the planetarium at the cherry trees.

The annual event is named after the college's former Vice President of Academic Affairs at El Camino College, who passed away two years ago. Dr. Hata was an internationally known scholar and extremely involved in academia and community work. She was instrumental in bringing the cherry trees to the campus seven 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 event will feature a performance by instructor Helen Nakano's martial arts students, music by two Humanities faculty members, and Haiku poetry readings.

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