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## **Redondo Beach Mother and Twin Sons to Graduate from El Camino College**

Lisa Youngworth looks forward to commencement at El Camino College this week, incredibly proud of her twin sons who will graduate with associate degrees and then transfer to the University of California at Santa Cruz in the fall.

Her boys are just as proud – Youngworth is graduating right along with them. Identical twins Nicolas and Andrew Lippa, 20, will join their mother – cap and gown and all – at the June 6 commencement ceremonies at El Camino College.

“We are so proud of our mom – this is a really big accomplishment,” said Nicolas Lippa. “She is the ultimate provider. She always made incredible things happen, even when times weren’t easy. And she was able to earn a degree, and work, and raise us.”

The brothers started at El Camino College right after graduating from Redondo Union High School in 2005. They joined the college’s Honors Transfer Program and were immediately on track to transferring to the university of their choice.

Youngworth, 46, enrolled in 2004, inspired by a coworker at Toyota Motor Sales who was very enthusiastic about her return to academic life at El Camino College.

“I thought why not? I had the time to do it, the boys were involved in summer camps, so I decided to go for it,” she said. “I started in the summer, which was such a nice way to ease back into school. I really enjoyed the classes and the work.

“I absolutely loved my time at El Camino College. I loved being in the classroom with such a great diversity of students. I know I was older, but I could relate to them because I had kids their age.”

Youngworth had taken classes at El Camino College years ago, but raising her sons as a single parent and working full time – she had her hands full. When she returned to school, she took classes at night and worked during the day. She knows she will miss them, but her boys are moving to Santa Cruz to study cultural anthropology and she couldn’t be happier.

“I am so proud of them, they were made for that school, and that school was made for them,” she said. “With the ocean, and the forests, and the many outdoor activities – that is just a plus. Those boys are the best thing that happened to me. We get along great

and we supported and encouraged each other while at El Camino. It was a lot of work, but they did their part and then some.”

The family had two classes together – music and art appreciation. Each came with field trips to the Disney Concert Hall and to the Getty Villa – moments no one will forget.

“These trips were some of the coolest things about attending El Camino College with my sons,” said Youngworth. “The concert and the museum were awesome beyond belief and I got to experience that with my sons. What a great opportunity.”

The brothers both report that their mother is an excellent student who took great notes and always worked hard.

“It was great here at El Camino with my mom and brother,” said Andrew Lippa. “I was fortunate to have really good professors, and I enjoyed field trips and my classes. I feel like El Camino prepared me well for the next step, especially being in the Honors Transfer Program. It makes your chances to get into the university you want that much better.”

Nicolas Lippa agreed that there was some stressful moments these past few years, but with support from counselors and professors, he stayed motivated.

“I would say that my experience at El Camino College surpassed my expectations,” he said. “Our counselors believed in us and knew we could do it. That was really encouraging, and helped us do our best.”