



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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Third Annual Jazz Festival Planned at El Camino College

High school and college students join faculty and professional musicians for a day of jazz

The Third Annual El Camino College Jazz Festival is set for April 9, featuring vocal and instrumental performances, jam sessions, clinics, and an evening gala concert dedicated to jazz.

A celebration of all things jazz, the day is dedicated to the late ECC jazz professor Christopher Mello and gives high school and college students, along with faculty and professional musicians, an opportunity come together to connect and share jazz music. This year, Grammy Award-winning saxophonist Bob Mintzer will be the featured artist and master class instructor; Mitch Glickman, jazz curator at LACMA and music director of the Symphonic Jazz Orchestra, will serve as a featured adjudicator; and award-winning musician, composer and producer Tony Guerrero will perform with the ECC faculty ensemble for an evening gala.

Daytime events are **free** and open to the public; the evening gala is a ticketed concert that costs \$15 for adults, \$10 for ECC and ECC Compton Center students, and \$7.50 for high school students and younger.

The jazz activities begin at 2 p.m. with the High School Band Showcase in Marsee Auditorium. This showcase highlights area high school bands, which will be adjudicated by musicians led by Glickman. A master class/clinic with Mintzer is next, where selected students will be coached and engaged in dialogue with the audience. Immediately following the master class, two guided jam sessions are planned, led by ECC jazz faculty members Amy Bormet and Ann Patterson.

Festival participants can also purchase meals and refreshments from three gourmet food trucks: BBQ Smokehouse, Richeez Grilled Cheese and Melts, and Urban Espresso. An informal outdoor dining area will be set up in the Marsee Auditorium North Patio, with a live performance provided by the ECC Student Combo.

At 8 p.m., the Gala Concert will open with El Camino College's Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Studio Jazz Band. Mintzer and the ECC Concert Jazz Band will follow, with a collaborative set featuring Mintzer's original compositions and arrangements. After an intermission, and following the presentation of the Chris Mello Memorial Scholarship, the inaugural performance of the ECC Applied Jazz Faculty Ensemble, comprised of world-class jazz faculty at ECC, will close the second half of the concert.

For a complete list of the day's events, view the El Camino College Facebook events page www.facebook.com/events/199004850455522/ or visit www.elcamino.edu/centerforthearts/performances/ecc-combined-jazz-bands.asp.

The Third Annual El Camino College Jazz Festival exemplifies El Camino College's longtime commitment to music education, the South Bay community and the jazz community worldwide by presenting world-class academic and performance events. This event is presented by the El Camino College Center for the Arts and Fine Arts Division, with additional support from a JAZZ2U grant supported by Jazz Education Network and the Herb Alpert Foundation.

Tickets for Third Annual El Camino College Jazz Festival evening gala are \$15 for adults, \$10 for ECC and ECC Compton Center students, and \$7.50 for high school students (and younger), and may be purchased online at centerforthearts.org, by phone at 310-329-5345 or toll-free at 800-832-ARTS. Students must present school ID. The Ticket Office is open Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Campus Parking is \$3. The El Camino College Marsee Auditorium is located at 16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance.

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