



**Happy Holidays from all of us at the El Camino College Foundation!**

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## Alumni Spotlight: "Shoot for the Moon" at El Camino College

When Ashley Danial's 6th grade teacher wrote in her yearbook to *Shoot for the Moon and if you miss you'll be among the Stars*, she didn't realize she would literally take these words to heart and pursue a career in aerospace.

Ashley had a very non-traditional El Camino College experience. After completing her undergraduate studies in Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University and subsequently obtaining a Master's degree also in Mechanical Engineering from UC Berkeley, Ashley attended El Camino as an adult learner. She wished to learn electrical engineering principles and her local community college provided the perfect opportunity. Ashley later earned a second Master's degree in Electrical Engineering from USC.

Ashley fondly remembers her ECC experience. "I received a very hands-on, practical education that allowed me to pivot both my educational and career trajectory. I remember my professor was a good lecturer and always available to help us in our labs. I was struck by the difference in the students in my classes from what I had previously experienced. At Purdue or Berkeley it was generally younger, full-time students. Most didn't have jobs and were being supported by their parents. At ECC, the students were a little older, nearly all of them were working and self-sufficient, some had kids. I really admired their internal drive and the personal sacrifices they were making to work during the day and attend school at night. That was a different level of commitment to achieving their educational goals that was really powerful."



Ultimately, Ashley chose engineering because she didn't see many women headed into that field and she wanted to do something different than her peers. "Now when I look at my own daughter, I can clearly see the signs of a budding engineer or scientist. I am proud that she gets to see a female role model in engineering, especially since women are still under-represented in that field."

Ms. Danial currently works at **Northrop Grumman** as Director of Engineering, Radio-frequency Mixed Signal, Antenna & Product Engineering and has over 22 years experience in the Aerospace industry. When asked what her future educational and career goals are, Ashley responded, "As a leader in a large engineering organization, my educational goals are more centered on the next

generation engineers at our company. How can we provide quality and relevant training to them through mentoring, in-house classes, on the job training, and external educational opportunities including certificate programs, graduate degrees or continuing education classes?"

Ashley is obviously very passionate about STEM initiatives. She and her husband Albert, have been long-term Foundation donors, supporting STEM programs, the newly established Student Emergency Fund, and President's Circle. Thank you both for nearly 20 years of philanthropy to help better the lives of El Camino students.

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## Program Spotlight: Warrior Toy Drive



Click on Perry to Donate Today!

**Perry the Penguin** needs your help to spread holiday cheer to our Warrior families! Please support **ECC CARE and CalWORKs** students during this holiday season. Many of our most needy students cannot afford to purchase gifts for their children. Let's help them celebrate the joys of the season with a special delivery package from Perry! **Read more about the Warrior Toy Drive here.**

**How can you help?** This year, El Camino College will mail CARE packages directly to our future ECC Warriors. Please donate **HERE** by **Friday, December 11**. Under **designation**, select **Other** from the drop down menu, and type "**Warrior Toy Drive**" in the comments field. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our students and their children.

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## Warrior Pantry Spotlight: Helping the Community

### Thank You National Charity League!

On November 16, the **National Charity League** Beachside Chapter donated over \$5,000 of non-perishable food, personal care, and household goods, including Thanksgiving meal items to the Warrior Pantry, in preparation of El Camino College's Give Thanks 2020 event. The NCL Beachside Chapter plans to organize another food drive in the spring of 2021 to help restock the Warrior Pantry shelves. NCL is a national mother/daughter philanthropy organization dedicated to serving local communities and providing leadership and cultural development opportunities. Thanks for all your support of the Warrior Pantry, ladies!



### Providing Complete Thanksgiving Meals to the Community

The El Camino College Warrior Pantry held a drive-thru Thanksgiving food distribution event on Tuesday, November 24. The Give Thanks 2020 event provided 427 El Camino families, veterans and community members with complete thanksgiving meals, including a turkey gift certificate from **LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn's Office**, grocery gift cards from **Habitat for Humanity**, **King's Hawaiian** dinner rolls, **Metro** transportation cards, 800 pies from **Jessie Lord Bakery**, and water from **Los Angeles Sparks** and **World Relief**. A big THANK YOU to the above community organizations for their generous in-kind donations to make this event possible.

[View Warrior Pantry Give Thanks 2020 Video.](#)

View photos from the event below.



427 festive Thanksgiving bags were assembled by volunteers in preparation of ECC's Give Thanks food distribution event.



Getting ready to distribute hundreds of family meals to go.



A Warrior Pantry volunteer safely distributes items practicing safe social distancing protocols.



Cars lined up to receive their Thanksgiving food distribution bag.

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## Campaign Spotlight: Student Emergency Fund-Raiser

**S+UDENT  
EMERGENCY  
FUND** *raiser*

RECOGNITION ♥ RESCUE ♥ RELIEF

and living expenses.

In order to keep up with the overwhelming demand of student requests, we continue to ask for support so we can distribute more checks to students! Thanks to our very generous corporate sponsors **Norris Foundation, Northrop Grumman, Torrance Refining Company, SoCalGas, American Honda Motor Co., Inc.**, and the **Roadium Open Air Market**, a \$60,000 match will double donation dollars. As we head into the holidays, please **join us in raising funds** to continue to help students in critical need.

In March, the El Camino College Foundation established a **Student Emergency Fund** for students experiencing hardship due to COVID-19. We are pleased to report that the Foundation has received gifts to date totaling **\$202,000!** This generosity has helped **440 students** with checks to assist with educational fees

## Season of Giving

It takes the giving hearts of our faithful donors to offer exceptional educational programs for our students. We want to thank everyone who donated this **#GivingTuesday**! We were blessed with gifts totaling **\$25,000**! Thank you for your generosity and support!

**THANKYOU**  
**#GIVING**  
**TUESDAY**



Help us finish the year strong! Your generosity can help change the trajectory of a student's life through education. Please consider making a gift to the **El Camino College Foundation** and designating it to a meaningful cause (Community Partners, President's Circle, South Bay Promise, STEM, Student Emergency Fund, Warrior Pantry, Greatest Need, etc.). Thank you in advance for your support!

**Secure a charitable tax deduction for 2020, by making a gift before 11:59 pm on Thursday, December 31.**

*The El Camino College Foundation (EIN 95-3874302) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to fund and support student success programs for El Camino College students.*



El Camino College Foundation | 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506



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