

# Valentine's Day



Dear Heidi,

February is a special month. Celebrating love is good for our heart and soul!

Here are some things I **love** about El Camino College:

- Seeing students every day who are here to learn, grow and achieve big goals. Watching their tenacity and fierce dedication to their dreams.
- Working with amazing staff and faculty who are all here with a common goal: to help our students excel.
- Observing as the campus transforms into a modern, 21st century college with state-of-the-art buildings and facilities to ensure students get the best possible education.
- Having the privilege to meet generous donors, alumni and friends of El Camino from all over our South Bay community and beyond who give with love to help our students.

All these things make my heart happy. I hope your heart is happy too! Happy Valentine's Day!

Andrea Sala  
Executive Director

## Donor Spotlight: The Olds Family



*Jim Olds (center) presenting a gift of over \$179,000 to El Camino College Superintendent/President Dr. Dena Maloney for the benefit of the El Camino College Center for the Arts. The gift was given from his parents' Charitable Remainder Trust.*

*L to R: Fine Arts Dean Berkeley Price; Theater Manager Barbara Riser; Jim Olds; Dr. Dena Maloney; ECC Foundation Executive Director Andrea Sala; and Center for the Arts Director Rick Christophersen.*

### A Generous Gift of Love

*Thank you to the Olds Family*

A.Y. and Joyce Olds loved the Marsee Auditorium at El Camino College. When A.Y. retired from Exxon after 40 years, he and Joyce, and their son Jim, would volunteer at the theater

to give back to their community. For over 25 years, they helped with seating, ticket taking, and serving refreshments to guests and became part of the Marsee family. A.Y. passed away in 2014 and Joyce just recently left us. However, they have provided a legacy of love to El Camino's Center for the Arts in the form of a very generous \$179,000 gift from their Charitable Remainder Trust.

On Friday, January 31, Jim Olds invited several ECC staff members to meet him in the Marsee Auditorium lobby for what he said was "family-related and something special, not to be missed," and he was right!

El Camino College Superintendent/President Dena Maloney said, "We are blessed to have such support from the Olds family. Their gift is a lasting legacy to their affection and connections with El Camino College."

Jim graduated from ECC in 1980 and was Valedictorian of his class; his sisters preceded him in 1971 and 1975. Jim has been an ECC Foundation President's Circle member since 2014. This truly is a Warrior family!

Everyone at El Camino is touched by the generosity of the Olds family and will use the gift to ensure students are getting the best experiences possible at the ECC Fine Arts program. Our hearts are full and happy, and we are grateful for this gift of love.

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## Program Spotlight: Forensics Team

The El Camino College Forensics Team is leading the national parliamentary debate standings, and this includes two- and four-year institutions. The top seven schools are as follows:

- 1. El Camino College**
2. University of the Pacific
3. Point Loma Nazarene University
4. UC Berkeley
5. University of Minnesota
6. Rice University
7. UC San Diego



This past weekend the team dominated at the Sunset Cliffs Invitational at Point Loma Nazarene University. On the way to winning Community College Sweepstakes, Alexandra Vandenberg was named top Community College debater, securing a \$3,000 scholarship. Additionally, El Camino won the junior division in debate, having three of the top four teams. The champions were first-year debaters Josiah Edwards and Michael Wagreich.

In the next few weeks, the team will head off to three national championship tournaments, two in Illinois and one in New Mexico. We have an excellent chance to win the community college national championships at all of them! If you are interested in watching the team perform, join us at the **Speakers' Forum on Thursday, March 5 at 7pm at the Marsee Auditorium**. Tickets are on sale now for \$15 (\$12 with ASB sticker). We would appreciate your support!

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# YOU'RE INVITED



## Gymnasium Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting

[\(Click to View Map\)](#)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 at 3 P.M.**

Please join us for a ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the new Gymnasium facility. You'll tour instructional and athletic competition areas, team locker rooms, and take in the view of Murdock Stadium from the multipurpose fitness space.

Guests will enjoy refreshments and can take to the basketball court to win free-throw prizes. The El Camino College Volleyball team will perform drills in their new space.

 El Camino College

**[Please RSVP marcomm@elcamino.edu](mailto:marcomm@elcamino.edu)**

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## Student Spotlight: Kaitlyn Parhm



Kaitlyn Parhm always knew that finding answers in engineering often requires trying out several different ideas. She recently experienced this firsthand when she was selected to be a participant in the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars program.

Read more about [Kaitlyn's NASA experience](#).

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## Show Your Love for El Camino College

A charitable gift to the El Camino College Foundation is a great way to spread some love!  
Thank you for your support!



*El Camino College Foundation (EIN 95-3874302) is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.*

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

