



EL CAMINO COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Connections

SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF EL CAMINO COLLEGE

SPRING 2023

Ken Brown Memorial Scholarship Established to Honor Beloved El Camino Trustee

The entire El Camino College campus community continues to mourn the passing of Ken Brown; beloved El Camino Community College District Trustee, colleague, and friend.

In December 2022, Ken was appointed president of the El Camino Community College Board of Trustees, after first

joining the Board in 2010. He was also president of the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) Board representing 115 California Community Colleges and 2.4 million students. Ken additionally served on the Association of Community College Trustees Public Policy and Advocacy Committee. Professionally, Ken rose to the role of Operations Manager at Northrop Grumman Space Systems and a physics faculty member at California State University, Dominguez Hills.


To honor Ken's extraordinary legacy, the Ken Brown Memorial Scholarship was established by his family to further Trustee Brown's life of service, dedication to the success of community college students, and promote his love of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

A graduate of Morehouse College, Ken received two Bachelor of Science degrees in both computer science and physics, and subsequently, a Master of Science degree in applied physics from Clark Atlanta University. While at Morehouse, Ken was twice named All-American in Track & Field, and played in the NCAA Division II Basketball Final Four. Ken also qualified for the U.S. Olympic trials and the Pan American Games in the high jump.


To honor Ken's extraordinary legacy, the Ken Brown Memorial Scholarship was established by his family to further Trustee Brown's life of service, dedication to the success of community college students, and promote his love of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the El Camino College Foundation to support his named scholarship, which will provide El Camino College students an opportunity to attend an HBCU, and enjoy a phenomenal education like the one Ken experienced at Morehouse College.

Brown was remembered by family and friends at his Celebration of Life and memorial concert on April 11. Brown is survived by his wife of nearly 25 years, Dr. Karla Harness Brown, and sons Kenneth II and Kaleb Brown.

EL CAMINO COLLEGE FOUNDATION



In Loving Memory



Kenneth A. Brown
August 31, 1968 – March 23, 2023

Forensics Team Competes in Japan for International Speech and Debate Tournament



ECC Forensics Team visited Sensō-ji, Tokyo's oldest Buddhist temple in Asakusa, Japan.

El Camino's award-winning Forensics Team competed in the International Forensics Association's 33rd Annual Speech and Debate Tournament and Conference in Tokyo, Japan in March. The tournament was conducted in English and adhered to National and British Parliamentary formats.

To help with the team's fundraising efforts, and after a presentation by forensics team member Uzair Pasta, the ECC Foundation Board of Directors agreed to sponsor their trip with a gift of \$15,000 to help cover travel and conference fees.

Francesca Bishop, Director of Forensics and Professor of Speech Communication stated, "I particularly want to thank the El Camino College Foundation who was instrumental in helping our students have this life-changing experience."

Out of over 50 colleges and universities, El Camino placed 5th overall, which is impressive given only four students traveled and competed. Individual awards included Cody Hagemeyer (IPDA Champion); Uzair Pasta (IPDA Top Speaker, Impromptu Speaking Champion, and After Dinner Speaking 2nd Place); and Jana Abulablan (Pose Interpretation 6th Place). The entire ECC Warrior Community is so proud of all of you!



ECC Forensics Team thanked the ECC Foundation for the support of their trip to Japan at the March Board of Directors meeting.

Journalism Students Win Big at NBC and College Media Association Competitions

El Camino College journalism students came home from the College Media Association's (CMA) recent spring conference with four of the top awards, including first place for best two-year college newspaper.



El Camino College student journalists pose with NBC Senior Vice President Yvette Miley (far right), at NBC Studios in 30 Rockefeller Center in New York.

The Union newspaper also won second place awards at the conference in New York City for best news website and best multimedia package. Warrior Life magazine was awarded third-place honors for best two-year college magazine.

The awards stemmed from national competition for the David L. Adams Apple Awards, which represent "best of show" in student journalism.

While in New York, the seven El Camino journalism students who attended the conference and adviser Stefanie Frith were invited to meet with NBCUniversal executives, producers and reporters as part of El Camino's partnership with NBCU Academy.

The group toured NBC Studios at Rockefeller Plaza and met with NBCU executives including Senior Vice President Yvette Miley and NBCU Academy Director of Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives Sandy Sharp. The student journalists were also treated to lunch and were given a peek at "The Tonight Show" studios. The NBCU Academy partnership has resulted in \$100,000 in scholarship funds and opportunities to forge industry connections for El Camino student journalists.

Onizuka Space Science Day Was Out of This World!

Each year, the Ellison S. Onizuka Memorial Committee, El Camino College, and American Honda Motor Co., Inc. sponsor a free, hands-on STEM conference for local students in grades 5-12. Attended by nearly 1,000 students, the Onizuka Space Science Day was primarily funded by the El Camino College Foundation and took place on March 4 at El Camino College.

This year's featured astronaut and keynote speaker from NASA was Daniel Tani. Tani graduated with a Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from MIT in 1988. He was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in April 1996, and eventually left NASA in August 2012 to become the VP of Mission and Cargo Operations in the Advanced Programs Group of Orbital Sciences Corporation.

El Camino was also honored to have Colonel Mia Walsh, Commander, Space Base Delta 3 of the Los Angeles Air Force Base, lead a hands-on science demonstration. She was inspired to join the Air Force and ultimately pursue a career in the space field after Ellison Onizuka visited her elementary school in Hawaii when she was seven years old.



Colonel Mia Walsh with Claude Onizuka, brother of Ellison Onizuka.

This year marks the 37th anniversary of the Space Shuttle Challenger accident that took the lives of the seven crew members, including Ellison Onizuka. The Onizuka Space Science Day honors Astronaut Ellison Onizuka's memory and is dedicated to his dream of inspiring the youth of America to strive for and achieve their career goals.



President's Dinner 2023

On March 15, the El Camino College Foundation held its annual President's Dinner at Red Car Brewery and Restaurant in Torrance. This event allowed some of our most generous donors an opportunity to mix and mingle with Superintendent/President Brenda Thames

in an intimate setting. Thank you to ECC Foundation Board of Director Laurie Brandt, and her husband Bob Brandt, for hosting our private event at their restaurant. We're so lucky for the support of all our President's Circle and Community Partner donors!





El Camino's New Basic Needs Center Offers Resources and Support to Students



Helping students meet their college goals often extends beyond traditional resources. To ensure success, students need the basics; if they are worried about their next meal or how they are going to get to campus each day, they won't

be able to focus on their studies.

The newly launched Basic Needs Center at El Camino offers “one-stop” student support. As part of El Camino's commitment to connect students and their families to services to help them succeed, the Basic Needs Center brings the college's existing resources together so students can easily access nutritious food, clothing, health care, and transportation.

“As our students work hard to balance their personal lives with the pressure of keeping up with their academic work while paying for books and enrollment fees, we want them to know that we are here to help,” said El Camino College President Brenda Thames. “Consolidating our network of basic needs services will go a long way to help students access the assistance they need to be successful and complete their college goals.”

Comprised of four services, the Basic Needs Center includes the Warrior Pantry, Warrior Closet, CalFresh, and Metro U-Pass. Currently enrolled students have access to free food and clothing, in addition to free public transportation with a basic needs assessment.

Plans are also underway for the Basic Needs Center to move into a new on-campus Modular Village in Parking Lot L next spring. The 13,440-square-foot facility will bring basic needs and wellness services together.

El Camino Head Baseball Coach and Professor Named Health Educator of the Year

El Camino College head baseball coach and physical education professor Nate Fernley was recently named Health Educator of the Year by the California Community College Physical Education, Kinesiology, Dance organization, the instructional group within the California Community College Athletics Association.



Fernley was honored at the CCCAA Spring Convention on March 30 in Sacramento. In addition to his work as El Camino's head baseball coach, Fernley teaches physical education classes, and is a Guided Pathways team leader for the college's Health Sciences & Athletics Division. He is also active in teaching in ECC's award-winning First Year Experience program.

This year marks Fernley's 16th season as head baseball coach for the Warriors. He received two consecutive South Coast Conference Coach of the Year Awards from 2021-2022 and has led the Warriors to the CCCAA State Championships

Final Four in two of the last four seasons, including a runner-up finish in 2019. Since 2017, no other CCCAA baseball program has accumulated a better winning percentage than the Warriors (.728). During Fernley's tenure, the Warriors have boasted a .663 winning percentage, posting a 450-229 record. In that period, El Camino accumulated the most wins within the South Coast Conference, both overall and in conference play (238). Fernley has coached more than 100 student-athletes who have gone on to four-year programs with several moving on to play professionally.

Fernley graduated from BYU with a degree in Spanish, and later earned his master's in sports science from the United States Sports Academy. As a player, Fernley played two years at Long Beach City College before transferring to BYU. He was named a consensus All-American for the Cougars and led the NCAA with 16 wins. Post-graduation, Fernley signed with the Cleveland Indians (now known as the Guardians), and later with the Chicago Cubs minor league team. Fernley was inducted into the Long Beach City College Hall of Fame in 2013.

Fernley has coached more than 100 student-athletes who have gone on to four-year programs with several moving on to play professionally.

Student Spotlight: Kenneth Tamakloe is Changing the World through Kindness and Compassion



Kenneth Tamakloe is a fourth-year nursing student at El Camino College. Originally from Ghana, Kenneth is pursuing his passion of helping those in need. Kenneth ultimately plans to help the medical industry by providing quality and empathetic care to those who do not

have access to quality healthcare. To achieve this, he is dedicated to his studies and tries to make a positive impact on the lives of those around him. Kenneth pursued nursing because nurses serve as educators and assist others going through some of the most challenging and vulnerable times of their lives.

In addition to excelling in his nursing courses, Kenneth is a Student Ambassador for Outreach and School Relations. In this role, he promotes the benefits of higher education to local high school seniors. Each semester,

Kenneth also assists current El Camino students with course registration.

He stated, “I love my job a lot. However, the pressure of working whilst going through the nursing program is challenging. Balancing spending time with loved ones, studying for tests every week with clinical rotations, and working, places a strain on me.”

Kenneth’s hard work and persistence has paid off. Each year, for the last three years, Kenneth has been awarded a nursing scholarship from the El Camino College

Foundation to help alleviate some of the financial burden he faces as he pursues a higher degree at El Camino. Kenneth currently maintains a 3.8 GPA and plans to complete his Associates Degree in Nursing (ADN) this spring and transfer to a CSU to attain his Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) in 2024.

Congratulations Kenneth! We know you will change the world through kindness and compassion!

Kenneth ultimately plans to help the medical industry by providing quality and empathetic care to those who do not have access to quality healthcare.

Alumni Spotlight: Recent Alumnus Eman Dalili Continues to Find Success Beyond El Camino College

Eman Dalili is a Senior Associate on the Investments team at SoLa Impact, a real estate private equity firm in Los Angeles that focuses on preserving and creating high-quality affordable housing in low-income communities. Eman is part of the team responsible for deploying a billion dollars of capital towards providing quality housing in historically depressed markets and revitalizing urban neighborhoods.

“My time at El Camino was instrumental in shaping the person I am today. As an El Camino alumnus, I am proud to carry with me the values and lessons learned from this exceptional institution.”

From El Camino, Eman transferred to UC Berkeley’s Haas School of Business where he majored in Business Administration, and interned as a Finance Analyst at Tesla. After graduating from Berkeley-Haas in 2019, Eman went on to work in Investment Banking at UBS and RBC.

Eman prides El Camino College as the foundation for his current success. “My time at El Camino was instrumental in shaping the person I am today. As an El Camino alumnus, I am proud to carry with me the values and lessons learned from this exceptional institution, and am forever grateful for my peers, teachers, staff, and administration.”

While at El Camino, Eman was also appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the California Community College Board of Governors, which further instilled in him his dedication to public service and the desire to serve his community.

Eman continues to give back to his community. He will be joining the El Camino College Foundation Board of Directors in July. The Foundation is excited to work with Eman again where he will utilize his El Camino experiences and professional background to support student success initiatives. Welcome back Eman – Once a Warrior, Always a Warrior!



Winning the Game of Life Through Gift Planning

It's never too early to start planning for the future and this begins with preparing and regularly reviewing your estate plan. Want to make a lasting impact on El Camino College? Consider extending your support through your estate plan. Making gifts to the El Camino College Foundation today will benefit our students

tomorrow and after your lifetime. Planned giving provides many long-term benefits to you and your beneficiary. Like the game of Life, life is full of adventures. If you are fortunate to acquire wealth throughout your lifetime, everyone wins if you include El Camino College Foundation in your estate plan.

Gift Planning At Any Age

Discover how a planned gift to El Camino College can leave a lasting legacy for the college you love while also achieving your personal and financial goals. There are multiple options for every life stage.

With gift planning, everyone wins. Play a strategic hand, no matter your age.

20s and 30s
RETIREMENT ACCOUNT
 Name El Camino College to receive a portion of your retirement account after you have passed away. You may specify a dollar amount or a percentage of the account.
 career

40s and 50s
GIFTS OF SECURITIES
 Donating appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds that you've held for more than one year can provide special tax advantages and have an immediate impact at El Camino College.
 family marriage

60s and 70s
CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUST
 Convert appreciated low-yielding assets like stock or real estate into a diversified portfolio that provides income while providing future support to El Camino.
 retirement

80s and 90s
GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE
 Donating property such as a vacation home or investment real estate may allow you to claim a charitable tax deduction and avoid capital gains taxes on any appreciation.
 care of parents college tuition

BEQUESTS
 Including El Camino in your estate plan can be a simple way to provide future support. This non-binding gift can be changed, depending on your needs, and it doesn't impact your current finances.
 children

DEFERRED GIFT ANNUITIES
 You're creating a gift that will pay you back when you need it—such as during retirement. You can take a larger income tax deduction now—and increase future payments until a later date.
 legacy planning

Thank You to our Generous Legacy Circle Donors

The Legacy Circle recognizes individuals and families who have designated a gift to the ECC Foundation through their estate planning. A planned Legacy Circle gift helps to ensure the continued success of El Camino College students.



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For more information, please contact foundation@elcamino.edu · elcaminocollegefoundation.org · 310.660.3683

