SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF EL CAMINO COLLEGE

**FALL 2018** 

### Why the South Bay Promise?

A conversation with Philanthropist Melanie Lundquist

Melanie and Richard Lundquist know a thing or two about education and philanthropy. Richard has been on the Board of Directors for the El Segundo Education Foundation for over two decades, spearheading fundraising initiatives and encouraging others in the South Bay community to support their public K-12 schools. Melanie and Richard were the driving philanthropic force behind the establishment of the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools in 2007 with an initial gift of \$50 million. The Partnership is an independent nonprofit organization, creating a sustainable transformation model across the highest-need traditional public Los Angeles Unified schools (that is, non-charter).

Melanie and Richard are products of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) system, completing their education in Los Angeles public schools. In January 2018, based upon the Partnership's positive results, they committed to another investment of \$35 million. The combined \$85 million is the second-largest investment ever made by individuals in America's K-12 public school education system.

In May of this year, the Lundquists pledged \$50,000

"I was not surprised that El Camino Community College stepped up to the plate with this wonderful program, reshaping the direction of their students' lives."

—Melanie Lundquist

to help El Camino's flagship program for first-time, full-time students who've recently graduated from high school, the South Bay Promise. According to Melanie, this entry into higher education philanthropy was due to the fact that this program "meets the needs of our most

vulnerable students" in our community. And that's where her heart lies. She considers their investment in education as a long-term investment, not something that can be judged or measured in just a year or two. "Our kids used to be surrounded by a village,

and today, there's really no village. We need to meet the needs as they are today, and this South Bay Promise program meets the needs of where society is now. It's like an extension of our Partnership for LA Schools where we also serve the most vulnerable. The South Bay Promise is serving those students too. This program surrounds these kids with the structure, the care, and the professional adults that they need. These professionals make sure these students have a really good chance to reach their potential and succeed in life."

El Camino is providing "wrap around" services for South Bay Promise students including additional counseling, orientations and early interventions when there are learning issues, which will help our students succeed and increase retention and completion of their community college degree. These services are expensive, but necessary, and provide a level of service unlike any other Promise program.

"When I heard what Honda was giving to the South Bay Promise program at El Camino College, I told them Continental Development will match your gift, because that's what responsible business owners do."

Melanie herself attended community college before heading to USC and feels we are so fortunate to have the California community college system. "It is invaluable and a God-send for many students. We are SO fortunate."

### **South Bay Promise: A Road to Success**

The South Bay Promise creates a seamless transition from high school to college, and ensures that students are supported for success once they arrive at El Camino College. Not only are students provided free enrollment fees for their first year, but they are offered priority early registration and guaranteed placement in required English and math classes during their first year. The South Bay

PROMISE

Promise program removes financial barriers and creates pathways to increase college readiness, access, affordability, and success for all students who qualify and enroll in the program and their families.

The program provides designated counselors specifically trained to work with Promise students, and will help select a path of study, with a goal of transfer preparation or workforce development through Career Technical Education. All

Promise students must be full-time, carrying 12 or more units.

Once students are enrolled in courses, they receive tutoring and other academic support

Once students are enrolled in courses, they receive tutoring and other academic support to encourage educational success, and they will be linked with a cohort group in order to build community and strengthen student engagement.

The South Bay Promise for fall 2019 is open to all students who enroll at El Camino immediately after graduating from a high school located in the El Camino College Community College District.

#### **Benefits of the South Bay Promise Program**

- Save more than \$1,100 in enrollment fees during first year at El Camino College
- Register for classes early with priority registration
- Set an academic plan for success and receive personalized counseling
- Receive free tutoring and other academic support services
- Access to English and math courses in the first year
- Participation in a Student Support & Success Program
- Personalized Support & Success Program orientations

# Meet our 2018 El Camino College Distinguished Alumni

The El Camino College Foundation is proud to announce the 2018 Distinguished Alumni. These individuals have furthered their educational and career goals and have proven to be outstanding in their field, as well as recognized for achievements in business, volunteerism and philanthropy.

We're proud to announce that we will also honor one area philanthropist and one local corporate partner with the first ever Gratitude Awards. This award recognizes long time support of El Camino students to help ensure they have a more successful and productive educational experience. Please join us to celebrate and recognize these deserving recipients.

For more details visit www.elcaminocollegefoundation.org



## Assemblymember Rocky Chavez

Rocky Chávez began his career in public service after graduating from El Camino College and then Chico State, when he joined the United States Marine Corps. Chávez served in the USMC for 28 years, rising to the rank of Colonel. Chávez served in all four active Marine divisions, including serving as Chief of Staff for the 4th Marine Division.

Upon retiring from the Marine Corps., Rocky continued his legacy of public service by founding the School of Business and Technology, a charter high school in the Oceanside Unified School District. He served as the school's director from 2002-2008.

Rocky was active at El Camino and was a member of the wrestling team. He qualified for the U.S. Olympic trials in 1968 and 1972. Rocky helped his family during grade school and college by working in agriculture, including summers picking grapes in Fresno County.

In November of 2002, Rocky was elected to the Oceanside City Council and in 2009 he was appointed by then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to serve as the Undersecretary of the California Department of Veteran Affairs and later as Acting Secretary.

Rocky was first elected in 2012 to represent the 76th Assembly District which includes Camp Pendleton, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Oceanside and Vista. He has served on many committees representing education, veterans, utilities and energy.

Rocky and his wife Mary live in Oceanside and have three children and five grandchildren.

### Dan Keenan

Dan Keenan is Senior Vice President at Keenan & Associates in Torrance and works closely with public agencies and Keenan & Associates benefit consultants to design and implement retirement programs. After attending El Camino College from 1973 to 1975 and earning his AA degree, Dan graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a degree in Human Resources Management. Dan and his six brothers all attended El Camino College (ECC).

After graduating from South
Torrance High School, Dan played
football and wrestled during his years at
ECC from 1973 to 1975. Dan has been
involved in the South Bay community
since he was a young boy and was
ASB Vice President at South High, and
was on the May Company Students
Advisory Board, in Redondo Beach.
He has coached softball, and has been
involved with the American Youth Soccer
Association (AYSO) Region 34 South
Redondo Beach as a coach, referee,
board member, Regional Commissioner,
and Referee Administrator since 1991.

and Referee Administrator since 1991.

He is also very active at St.

Lawrence Martyr Church as an Extra
Ordinary Eucharist Minister and
Right of Christian Initiation of Adults
(RCIA-Children/Teens) Teacher. He
is currently an Executive Member of
Keenan & Associates' Corporate Social
Responsibility (CSR) Committee with
emphases on outreach to the community
and assisting youth with Mentoring and
Right Start Programs.

Dan has been married to Judy for 37 years, and they have a daughter and son-in-law, and two daughters. He is also a proud grandfather.

### **Sherry Kramer**

Since 2006, Sherry Kramer has been the Director of Community Affairs and Government Relations for Continental Development Corporation, a commercial real estate business which also includes office, hotel, retail and medical complexes throughout the South Bay and San Francisco

Sherry is a proud El Camino College alumnus. She attended prior to transferring to CSU Long Beach where she received a degree in Speech Communications.

Sherry is actively involved in several area Chambers of Commerce including El Segundo, Torrance, Palos Verdes Peninsula and Manhattan Beach. She has been Chairwoman of the El Segundo (twice), Torrance, and Manhattan Beach Chambers of Commerce.

Additionally, Sherry is involved in numerous philanthropic organizations. Ones closest to her heart include serving on the boards of Torrance Memorial Medical Center, CSULB. The South Bay Police & Fire Memorial Foundation, Torrance Cultural Arts Center and serving on the Education Foundation Advisory Boards in El Segundo, Manhattan Beach and Torrance. Past recognitions that Sherry has received include The MB Chamber "Heart and Soul" (2007); Senate District 28 "Woman of the Year" (2010); Torrance Chamber "Athena Award" (2014). Switzer Learning Center's South Bay Woman of the Year (2016) and the 2016 LA County Board of Supervisors and LA County Commission for Women "Woman of the Year" from former Supervisor Don Knabe.

Sherry has been married to Dr. Ian Kramer for over 32 years and together they have three adult children who all reside in the South Bay.







Dan Keenan



Sherry Kramer



Brian Wilson

### **Brian Wilson**

Brian Wilson is most famously known as the founder of the Beach Boys, an iconic American band that created the sounds of Southern California. He is an American musician, singer, songwriter, and record producer. The Beach Boys are an American rock band formed in Hawthorne, California, in 1961. The group's original lineup consisted of brothers Brian, Dennis, and Carl Wilson; their cousin Mike Love; and their friend Al Jardine.

Distinguished by their vocal harmonies and early surf songs, they are one of the most influential acts of the rock era. The band drew on the music of jazz-based vocal groups, 1950s rock and roll, and black R&B to create their unique sound, and with Brian as composer, arranger, producer, and de facto leader, often incorporated classical elements and unconventional recording techniques in innovative ways.

Brian enrolled at El Camino
College, majoring in psychology, in
September 1960 and continued his
music studies there as well. At some
point in 1961 he wrote his first alloriginal melody, which was eventually
known as "Surfer Girl".

The Beach Boys began as a garage band, managed by the Wilsons' father Murry, with Brian's musicianship dominating their creative direction. In 1963, they gained national prominence with a string of top-ten hits reflecting a southern California youth culture of surfing, cars, and romance, later dubbed the "California Sound".

### **Gratitude Award Recipients**

### **Frances Ford**

Frances Ford has a passion for helping students at El Camino College. Her late husband Warren was a Chemistry professor for 36 years. Professor Ford had a love for his passion of Chemistry and a dedication to students at El Camino. Professor Ford started teaching at 28 years of age after a short career at Warner Brothers. He always had time to see one more student, answer one more question, or work one more problem. It was his desire to see all his students succeed. He and Frances had several wonderful adventures when he took two sabbaticals and they journeyed to Europe and Asia.



Frances has donated and bequeathed nearly \$1 million to the El Camino College Foundation in support of nursing and chemistry scholarships, and programs to support student success. Each year she has ten to twelve students who receive her two-year scholarships.

Frances, at 92 years young, is very active and enjoys traveling to Mexico, Hawaii and Iowa, where she visits her 95 years young brother. When told of the honor she was to receive, Frances humbly said, "No, not me! I don't do this for any recognition!" That only makes this award much more special.

#### **Edison International**

For more than 20 years, Edison International has supported students at El Camino College through donations to Fine Arts, STEM, MESA, Business, Women in Technology, and multiple student scholarships. During the OSHER Scholarship Campaign in 2009-2010, Edison International was one of the top donors to support this innovative endowment initiative from the Bernard Osher Foundation. Over the years, they have donated over \$700,000 to El Camino College. Most recently, donations have been designated for Edison STEM Scholars Scholarships, awarded to students in the STEM program at El Camino College. Students who receive this prestigious scholarship are proud recipients and wear it like a badge of honor.

Edison International's corporate philosophy is that education can transform lives and change entire communities. Their support focuses on providing underrepresented students access to higher education through scholarships in STEM. They want our future workforce to reflect the ethnic diversity of their customer base.

Scholarships and grants to community colleges and universities provide underserved and underrepresented students the opportunity to attend college where otherwise they may not have had the opportunity to



do so. In many cases, recipients of educational funding and winners of the Edison Scholars scholarships program are the first in their families to attend college. They currently fund more than 100 higher education institutions — all community colleges, all California State Universities, all University of California schools and several private schools in their service territory. Funding education programs nurtures STEM scholars and helps them develop skills needed for the future workforce of our company, our region and the country. The students at El Camino College are more than grateful!

### YOU'RE INVITED



COLLABORATE
CONNECT
TRAIN
PREPARE
INNOVATE

Building Partnerships Together

*Together* SUPPORT

### Keynote Address

Dena P. Maloney, Ed.D. Superintendent/President El Camino College

Workforce Partnerships

El Camino College First Annual Report to the Community

#### Friday, November 9, 2018

11:30am - 1:30pm Lunch

East Dining Room El Camino College 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance

#### RSVP by October 29.

ltam@elcamino.edu or 310-660-3406

### EL CAMINO COLLEGE







Bettolino Kitchen is splitting their profits every Tuesday in November with El Camino College. Dine out on Tuesdays to do a little good for our community!

211 PV Blvd Redondo Beach . 310.375.0500 . www.BettolinoKitchen.com

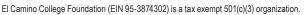












The El Camino Community College District is committed to providing equal opportunity in which no person is subjected to discrimination on the basis of national origin, religion, age, sex (including sexual harassment), race, color, gender, physical or mental disability, or retaliation.

