

EL CAMINO COLLEGE FOUNDATION

# Connections

SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF EL CAMINO COLLEGE

FALL 2019

## El Camino College Foundation Raises Over \$130,000 for South Bay Promise

Brunch event hosted by South Bay philanthropists Melanie and Richard Lundquist attracts new funding to support access to college



A recent brunch attended by higher education advocates from across the South Bay raised more than \$130,000 to support the El Camino College Foundation and the South Bay Promise.

Hosted by South Bay philanthropists Melanie and Richard Lundquist, the event highlighted the college's commitment to creating accessible pathways to higher education through the South Bay Promise.



***"The tipping point for me was the free college. I just thought of all the educational possibilities I could achieve without being bound by money. South Bay Promise has given me the freedom to not only thrive as a student, but also as a leader"***

*-Lindsey Lee, ECCCD Student Trustee, South Bay Promise participant*

The El Camino College Foundation is raising funds to support that goal. The Lundquists are signatories to the Giving Pledge and are widely known as strong advocates for public education and college access programs. They co-founded the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools, an independent non-profit and non-charter organization that has fostered transformative change at 18 of Los Angeles Unified's most underserved schools, improving outcomes for over 14,000 students annually. The Lundquists pledged \$50,000 in 2018 to the South Bay Promise at El Camino College. "Our deepest gratitude is extended

to our supporters and the Lundquists, who truly believe that education changes lives," said El Camino College Superintendent/President Dena P. Maloney. "Melanie and Richard Lundquist were a leading force in the launch of the historic statewide Osher Scholarship Endowment Program 10 years ago at El Camino College and are now dedicating their efforts to the South Bay Promise. We are so fortunate that El Camino College has friends in the Lundquists."



ECC Superintendent/President Dr. Dena Maloney and Melanie Lundquist

During the brunch held at their home, the Lundquists challenged the guests with a \$50,000 matching gift for the South Bay Promise to add to their initial investment. The friends of El Camino rose to the occasion, and donated an additional \$65,000, which the Lundquists graciously and immediately agreed to match. *(continued on Page 2)*

# Foundation Raises Over \$130,000 for South Bay Promise *(continued from Page 1)*

The South Bay Promise is a comprehensive program that provides free enrollment fees to incoming freshmen who attend El Camino College directly after graduating from high school and commit to full-time student status. Students can also find help in navigating the college experience, in addition to support programs and learning communities to help complete their course of study and transfer or enter the workforce with a technical degree within two years.

“The El Camino College Foundation is raising important funds that will directly help students reduce the cost of attendance. Innovative initiatives like laptop and book loan programs help students keep out-of-pocket costs down so they can concentrate on their studies. Making college affordable so students don’t have to work extra jobs to stay

in school can truly help keep students on the right track,” said Andrea Sala, Executive Director of the El Camino College Foundation.

The South Bay Promise began in fall 2014 with just 12 students from the Inglewood Unified School District and Centinela Valley High School District. The program grew to 90 students in

fall 2017 with the addition of the Torrance Unified School District. In fall 2018, the program expanded to accommodate 500 students who graduated from any South Bay area-high school.

Participating students are linked with a student success cohort group, which helps build community, strengthen student engagement, and gives students a sense of belonging. This kind of student support helps ensure a seamless transition from high school to college. Essential “wrap around” services such as customized counseling, orientation, educational planning, financial aid and financial literacy information, and early alert systems for student progress have led to impressive South Bay Promise student retention rates that are well above state averages.

**Making college affordable so students don’t have to work extra jobs to stay in school can truly help keep students on the right track.**



*Philanthropists Melanie and Richard Lundquist hosted the brunch at their beautiful home.*



*Joanne and Stanley Chang with ECCF Development Officer Heidi Wang*



*El Camino College Foundation Executive Director Andrea Sala, Dean of Enrollment Services Robin Dreizler and his wife Dina and mother, Pat Dreizler*



*Mia and David Kartsonis and Rachael and Aaron Steven*



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*Andrea Sala, Executive Director, El Camino College Foundation and Melanie Lundquist*



*ECC Foundation Board President Mark Waronek and wife Kristine, Mike Maloney and ECC Superintendent/President Dr. Dena Maloney, and ECC Executive Director of Marketing & Communications, Ann O'Brien and husband Mike, and Heidi Wang*



*Ann O'Brien with husband Mike and Kathryn Joiner and Ron Walecki*



*El Camino College professor emeritus Dr. Virginia Pfiffner and Gary Sexton*



*Cathy and Taylor Beaupain with El Camino Community College District Board of Trustees President Cliff Numark*



*Long-time friends and El Camino supporters Pat Dreizler and Mary Haag*



*Debra and Dan Shrader*



*Mike Maloney, Dr. Dean and Angela Furkioti, and Andrea Sala, Executive Director, El Camino College Foundation*



*ECC Alumnus Dr. Wayne and Peggy Bemis*



*Jim and Pam Hill with Joanna Medawar Nacheff and Hani Nacheff*

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#GIVING TUESDAY™  
December 3, 2019

## A Message from Andrea...

### Perservance.

I see it every day at El Camino. Students working hard to get past the day to day struggles called life. Since we are heading into the season of believing and giving, I thought it would be a good time to share some stories with you, our friends and supporters.



Abigail\* is a 27-year-old survivor of domestic violence. She's waiting for the green light at a safe home for survivors so she can stop couch surfing at her friends' houses. Her children live in New York with her mother because it's stable. Abigail is determined to finish her education, so she stays in California to finish what she started here. And she's almost finished at El Camino. She needs a deposit for the transition home, but her student loan hasn't come through yet. A counselor brings her to the Foundation office, and we see how we can help. We make sure she has the necessary funds as a loan, and she is able to move into her new home.



Michael\* is a music major. His financial aid hasn't funded yet, and he has no money for gas. Tomorrow he has a big mid-term, but he lives in Orange County and can't get to the El Camino campus. I think to myself, "why does he drive all the way to El Camino when there are good community colleges in Orange County." So, I ask him. "Michael, why do you drive all the way to El Camino to go to school? Gas is so expensive." And he answers, "Because El Camino has the best music department, and I need to go here." Makes sense to me! So, I give him \$50 for gas from an emergency fund, and tell him good luck on his mid-term.



Shavon\* is also a music major. She can't purchase her book for her MUSIC 101 class. She's been trying all semester to keep up in class without the book, but now it's at a crucial point and she'll have to drop the class if she can't buy the book. This particular book is not in the ECC library as part of our library loan program. It's \$95 and she just can't afford it. Dropping the class will mean a "W" (withdraw) on her transcript. Thank goodness for the Foundation's emergency book fund. A book voucher is written and off to the ECC bookstore she goes.

There are countless stories like these each and every week at the Foundation office. And we get to help these fabulous students who work so hard each day to get through "life". Not just financially, but we are able to help them emotionally. Because having a place to live, money for gas, and the right book for your class is crucial to get by in college. This is why I am so thankful for our supporters who allow us to make sure students like these get the care and funding they need.

During this time of the year, I am especially grateful for being able to help students like the ones mentioned here. And hundreds of others in the past and in the future. This is why I love El Camino College. It's where students belong, and where they succeed. If you've made it this far, thank you for reading. And thank you for helping.

Andrea Sala  
Executive Director, El Camino College Foundation

*\*Of course, I'm not using real names.*

## El Camino College Murdock Stadium Field Named "Featherstone Field"



Legendary football coach John Featherstone led the ECC Warriors football program to 30+ years of success. As a way of recognizing Featherstone's many years of service to El Camino College, the field in Murdock Stadium was named Featherstone Field in his honor. The field was officially dedicated during a pre-

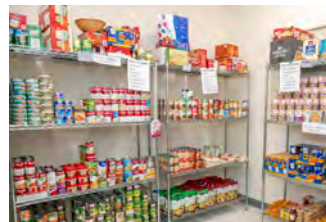
game celebration at the Warriors' homecoming football game on November 16th.

Coach Featherstone, widely known as "Feather" to thousands of former students and supporters of Warrior athletics, is a community college football icon. He retired from El Camino College in 2015 after 31 seasons, with an impressive overall record. Under his leadership, the Warriors earned a national championship in 1987, a state championship in 2006, 11 conference championships, and appeared in 19 bowl games. From 2004-08, Coach Featherstone's teams made five consecutive Southern California playoff appearances, and throughout his career he led his teams to 21 nationally ranked finishes, including seven straight from 2003-09.

To honor Featherstone's accomplishments on and off the field, the new John Featherstone Fund for Athletic Excellence has been established in support of ECC Warrior athletics. To learn more or donate, visit [www.elcamino.edu/foundation/featherstone](http://www.elcamino.edu/foundation/featherstone).

## Supervisor Janice Hahn Grants \$10,000 to Warrior Pantry

For the second year in a row, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn recently awarded a \$10,000 grant to the El Camino College Foundation in support of the Warrior Pantry to assist students facing food insecurities. The substantial grant will be used to ensure the pantry shelves are stocked with nutritious food items and will support events where students receive hot meals.



"Many of our community college students are struggling with homelessness and food insecurity," said Supervisor Hahn. "While we are working to expand affordable housing options for students, the Warrior Pantry is an incredible resource at El Camino College. With the pantry shelves full, students can worry less about where their next meal is coming from and focus instead on their studies."

Since opening in October 2017, ECC's Warrior Pantry has helped students achieve academic success by offering supplementary food items. Many students face serious financial challenges and often find it difficult to support themselves while also paying for college.

## Student Spotlight: Hannah Sandeen

Edison STEM Scholar and 2019 El Camino College graduate Hannah Sandeen transferred to USC this fall as a chemical engineering major with an emphasis in sustainable energy. For the fourth consecutive summer, she worked as an intern at Carver Scientific, Inc., based at Louisiana State University. In this position, she assisted a chemical research lab physicist with researching, testing, and producing energy-storage devices.

Sandeen said the scholarship from Edison International will help her focus on her studies by taking financial pressure off her and her family.

“Being a recipient of the Edison scholarship is a great honor because not only does it continue to motivate and support me with my educational goals, but it also shows that I am on the right path toward my dream career,” added Sandeen, who was an active member of ECC’s Honors Transfer Program (HTP), the Alpha Gamma Sigma honor society (as club president), and the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program.

In addition to the scholarship from Edison International, Sandeen received the Alpha Gamma Sigma Scholarship for the past two years, the Inter-Club Council Leadership Scholarship, and the Honors Transfer Program Scholarship.

“The smaller class sizes at El Camino really helped me connect to the school and stay motivated throughout the semester,” she added. “El Camino allowed me to reflect



on what I wanted to study and which university I wanted to attend. I am very excited for my future, and I wouldn’t feel as confident or prepared as I do without the opportunity and support El Camino provided to me over the years.”

Recently, Edison International awarded another \$25,000 grant for scholarships to El Camino’s STEM students. Thank you, Edison, for your support!

## El Camino College UCLA Summer Undergraduate Research Program

Six El Camino College students majoring in STEM disciplines received the opportunity to spend part of their summer at the UCLA Samueli School of Engineering Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP). Students spent eight weeks living on campus and conducting research with graduate students and faculty members at UCLA.

### Program benefits included:

- \$4,000 stipend per student to alleviate working during the program
- Financial support for housing and meals
- Access to workshops and seminars
- Mentoring from an UCLA Engineering faculty member and graduate student daily lab supervisor
- Learning the impact in their community as engineers
- Interacting with a national community of peers
- Discovering pathways to graduate school
- Acquiring skills that can translate to industry
- Gaining a competitive advantage on their peers
- Engaging the ultimate academic challenge

### El Camino College MESA | STEM - UCLA SURP Participants:

Alyssa Eckley  
Tyler Kaplan  
Navene Raya  
Jason Bustani  
Sean Dao  
Gustavo Diaz







# The Depot's 24th Annual Halloween Ball

Proceeds from costume gala benefit the El Camino College Foundation and South Bay Promise



**"The generosity of Chef Shafer is remarkable, and we are thrilled to be a part of the annual Halloween Ball this year."**

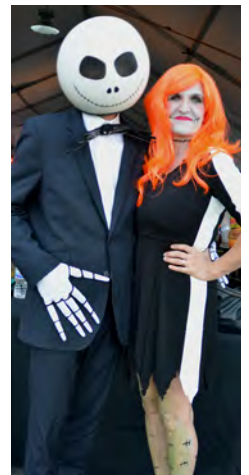
— El Camino College Superintendent/President Dena P. Maloney

An evening of dinner, dancing and treats took place at the 24th Annual Halloween Ball on October 20 at the Depot Restaurant in historic downtown Torrance.

The Depot's Chef Michael Shafer selected the El Camino College Foundation as this year's beneficiary of the popular Halloween costume party fundraiser. Each year, the venerable chef supports a community organization through this epic Halloween gala that kicks off the South Bay's holiday season.

The festivities included Chef Shafer's dinner buffet, hosted martini bar, beer and wine, appetizers, a costume contest, both live and silent auctions, and dancing to live music.

"The generosity of Chef Shafer is remarkable, and we are thrilled to be a part of the annual Halloween Ball this year," said El Camino College Superintendent/President Dena P. Maloney. "We thank Chef Shafer and all those in the community who support our efforts to provide access to higher education opportunities for all."



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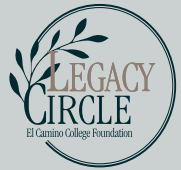
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South Bay  
Harry McKellop

**\$5,000+**  
The Barth Family: Melinda, Dylan & Evan  
Cathy & Taylor Beaupain  
Foster Care Counts  
Norman Maclean  
Manhattan Beach Rotary  
Cynthia & Charles Marquis  
Neptunian Woman's Club  
Manhattan Beach  
Robert Reamer  
Ronald Katz Family Foundation  
Ann & Steven Sawelson  
The Vette Set  
Kaye & Rich Verry

**\$3,000+**  
Maryann and Paul Adalian  
Marilyn & Austin Anderson  
Allen Bollinger  
Gene Haas Foundation  
Jesse Steinsma Endowment  
Redondo Beach Rotary Club  
Surenidra & Kala Jain Foundation

**\$2,000+**  
American Building Supply  
Kathy Benz  
Bruins of the South Bay  
Maria Caponi

Thomas Elder  
Los Angeles Rams  
Palos Verdes Woman's Club  
Parker & Covert LLP  
PRIDE Industries  
Rotary Club of PV Sunset Charities

**\$1,500+**  
Atlantic Relocation Systems  
Leila & Don Jennings  
David Jones  
Dorothy & Allen Lay  
Roy Mekaru  
Phillip Pope

**\$1,000+**  
Adat Ariel  
Enadine Bailey  
Lily & Chris Chen  
Custom Research Labs  
El Segundo Rotary  
Anita Finan  
Grand Prix Association of Long Beach  
Christine Jeffries  
Sherry & Ian Kramer  
Elizabeth Kunkke  
Janet McKinney-Fullan  
Steve Morikawa  
Teresa Nieves Montebello  
P.E.O. - Chapter H  
Raymond Portka  
Richard & Jacqueline Rede  
Raymond Southstone  
Student Insurance  
T.J. Andersen, Inc.  
Yoshimi Takeuchi  
Torrance Resort  
Torrance Woman's Club  
Carol Vedder

**\$500+**  
Alex Abad Real Estate  
Edwin Amrosio  
Juli & Bob Amos  
Mary & Phil Anthony  
Julia Aramburo  
Laura Armour  
Bettolino Kitchen  
Richard Blount  
Body Glove International  
Renee & Eric Bolstad

Steven Brand  
Greg Braxton-Brown  
California Financial Partners  
Susan & Adam Carroll  
Sung Ja Cho  
Choura Events  
Kate Coker  
Susan Corbin & Zeb Little  
Dignity Health Sports Park  
Robin & Dina Dreizler  
Patricia Dreizer  
El Segundo Dermatology  
Teri & Gene Engle  
Ed Eno  
Constance Fitzsimons-Meisner  
Donald Goldberg  
Melissa Guess  
Brent Heinisch  
Joseph Holliday  
Karyna Hopwood  
Mersha Iino  
Lisa & Peter Inouye  
Mary Kalista  
Pamela Lemkin  
Peter Marcoux  
Kristina Martinez  
Medawar Fine Jewelers  
Ruby & Sadao Mochidome  
Helen & George Nakano  
National Assoc. of Student Personnel Administrators  
Patrick Pagett  
Teresa Palos  
Ethel Pattison  
Mary Anne & Robert Petersen  
Red Car Brewery  
Jan Reid  
Barbara Riser  
Patrick Sany  
Angela Simon  
Luukia Smith  
South Bay Motors  
Rochelle & Miguel Tittmann  
Torrance City Transit  
Foundation  
Cultural Arts Center  
Christie Turner  
Carolee & David Vakil  
Judy & Lauriston Wah  
Linda & Anthony West  
Michael Wynne

For more information, please contact [foundation@elcamino.edu](mailto:foundation@elcamino.edu) - [elcaminocollegefoundation.org](http://elcaminocollegefoundation.org) - 310.660.3683

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