

Cerritos College
2017



Est. **HALL of FAME** 2012



Message from the President

Dear Honorees, Families, and Friends,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to our annual Hall of Fame Dinner and Awards Ceremony. The Hall of Fame was established to recognize those individuals and corporations who have made outstanding contributions to the excellence of Cerritos College. Thousands of students have benefitted from our honorees' leadership, dedication, and philanthropy.

It is an honor to welcome these individuals and celebrate their achievements as we induct them into our highest honor, our Hall of Fame. This is a very special night for honorees, families, and friends.

Thank you for attending tonight's ceremony.

Jose Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent

*Cerritos College Hall of Fame
Dinner & Awards Program
March 2, 2017*

WELCOME

Master of Ceremonies Steve Richardson
Executive Director, Foundation and Community Advancement

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Dr. Jose Fierro
President/Superintendent

DINNER

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

Distinguished Female Athlete
April Brown

Distinguished Male Athlete
Lorenzo Romar

Distinguished Coach
Jeff Smith

INTERMISSION

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION *(continued)*

Distinguished Alumnus
Patrick Schwerdtfeger

Distinguished Faculty
Donna Miller

Distinguished Corporate Partner
Tilden-Coil Constructors, Inc.

Distinguished President's Award of Excellence
John Jackson (Professor Emeritus of Automotive Technology)

CLOSING REMARKS

Steve Richardson

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Senetor Tony Mendoza

aalrr-Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud and Romo

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Donors

Mr. Mark Logan

Dr. Walter Magnuson

Dr. Hillary Mennella



*Distinguished Female Athlete
Track and Field*

April Brown

As a sprinter on the Cerritos College track and field team from 2002-03, April Brown set and broke her own record in the 100-meter and 200-meter numerous times. She went on to win the state championship in the 100-meter both years, while she won the state title in the 200-meter as a sophomore. April is the only sprinter in Falcon history to win the state championship in either event. Additionally, she ran the second leg of the 400-meter relay team that won the state title in 2003. Her times of 11.41 in the 100-meter and 23.91 in the 200-meter were school records until 2013, and she ran a leg of the top three times in school history in the 400-meter relay and is part of the third-fastest 1600-meter relay time in Cerritos history. She transferred to Cal State Los Angeles and won the 2006 NCAA Division II 60-meter Indoor National Championship with an NCAA Championship record time of 7.43. After graduation, April earned a bachelor's degree and is currently working in the medical field.

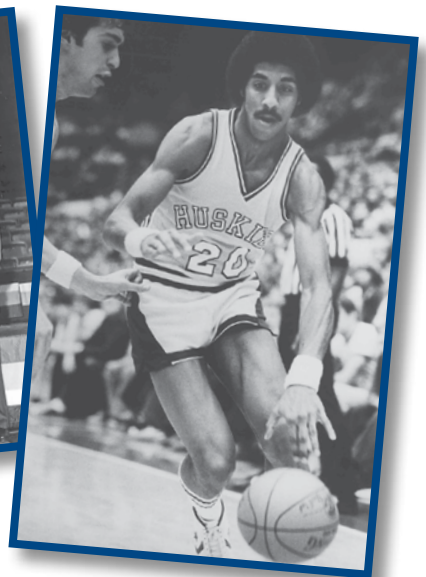


*Distinguished Male Athlete
Basketball*

Lorenzo Romar



*F*rom 1976-78, Lorenzo Romar was a men's basketball player and earned All-South Coast Conference recognition as a sophomore at Cerritos College. He was recruited to play at the University of Washington before being drafted by the Golden State Warriors in the NBA and had a five-year professional career that saw him play for three teams. Lorenzo then embarked on his coaching career after a stint playing and coaching for Athletes in Action. While still playing and early on in his coaching career, he was regularly the keynote speaker at the Cerritos men's basketball banquets and was readily available to the program to provide insight and guidance for the student-athletes. He then served as an assistant coach on the 1995 NCAA National Championship team at UCLA and has since gone on to serve as the head coach at Pepperdine University, Saint Louis University and is currently in his 15th season as the head coach at the University of Washington and has a 289-174 record. Spanning 20 seasons, Lorenzo has a career head coaching record of 382-189 and has guided his Huskies teams to three Sweet 16 appearances and nine post-season appearances. He was also named the PAC-10 Coach of the Year twice, as well as the PAC-12 Coach of the Year in 2012.





Distinguished Coach Wrestling

Jeff Smith

After spending 21 years as the Cerritos College wrestling coach, Jeff Smith spent seven years as the department's Athletic Director before retiring in 2008. In his time as the wrestling coach, Jeff led the Falcons to 12 South Coast Conference championships, as well as one State Championship (1995) and two dual meet state championships. Prior to winning the state championship, his teams had finished in second place at the state championships for three straight seasons. During his tenure as the Falcons head coach, Jeff posted a 212-32-2 record, coached 22 individual state champions during his tenure, 75 All-Americans, while his teams also won seven Southern California championships. As a collegiate wrestler, Jeff was a State Champion and All-American for the Falcons during the 1966-67 season while posting a 65-4 record on the mat. He then moved onto Michigan State University where he went 50-2, was a two-time Big Ten Champion and named the conference's Most Outstanding Wrestler. Also a two-time All-American, Jeff went

on to win national titles in Freestyle and Greco Roman styles of wrestling and was a four-time USA Wrestling All-American. He was also Pan American Games gold medal winner in free style wrestling and was an alternate on the 1972 Olympic Team.



Distinguished Alumnus
Class of 1969

Patrick Schwerdtfeger



Recognized as one of the most successful community college forensic coaches in the state and nation, Patrick Schwerdtfeger began his illustrious career at Cerritos College where he developed an aptitude for competitive debating. Pat's notable accomplishments on the forensic team while at Cerritos included securing a first place win at the Phi Rho Pi Nationals, and multiple awards at the State Championship level including distinction as first place in Extemporaneous speaking, an impromptu speaking finalist, and second place in debate. Pat also participated in student government at Cerritos College, receiving a Silver Falcon award for his service.

After earning his bachelor's and master's degrees, Pat shared his craft and knowledge with students at Palomar College for 33 years. He then promoted through the college administrator ranks, serving as Vice President of Academic Affairs at Riverside City College in 2007. Although retired since 2011, Pat continues to contribute to community colleges both in- and out-of-state in interim positions. In fall of 2011, Cerritos College was privileged to welcome an alumnus in an administrator position when Pat served as interim Dean of Technology, and Liberal Arts.



Distinguished Faculty Speech Communications

Donna Miller



Donna Miller began her teaching career at Cerritos College in 1972, as the Director of Forensics. During her 38-year tenure, she served as professor, department chairperson, and instructional dean of Liberal Arts, interim Executive Dean of Community, Industry, and Technology Education, and interim Vice President of Academic Affairs. Donna served on numerous faculty committees including president of the Cerritos College Faculty Association, and was recognized with the Outstanding Faculty Senator award. She twice chaired the Cerritos College accreditation process, and was responsible for chairing the committee that authored the original shared governance policy. Along with her on campus leadership roles, Donna served off campus as president of the National Community College Forensics Association, and directed both the National and California Forensics Tournaments.

Donna was instrumental in helping the Speech Communications department create one of the most extensive curriculum offerings in the state. Under her direction, the speech and debate team won numerous state and national awards by ensuring that her teams were always thoroughly prepared for competition. Donna was an exceptional teacher who touched the lives of many students. She truly exemplified excellence in teaching and was highly respected by her peers and students as reflected in twice being awarded the Outstanding Faculty commendation.

In addition to her dedication to serving Cerritos College, Donna also served for 20 years as an elected trustee of the Buena Park Library District, and 19 years as a trustee on the North Orange County Community College District Board of Trustees.

Since her retirement in 2010, she remains committed to the success of California's community colleges by making presentations to local and statewide organizations, as well as at community colleges including Cerritos College's Board of Trustees meetings, and the Falcon Leadership Academy. Donna is also an active member of the Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association.





Distinguished Corporate Partner

Tilden-Coil Constructors, Inc.

Tilden-Coil's foundation is one of integrity, visionary thinking, and moderate controlled growth. They are committed to carrying on the culture that began in 1938. Today, the leadership team of Tilden-Coil continues to shape the firm in its growth and development with a dedication to quality, integrity, and unwavering discipline towards the organization's purpose.

Tilden-Coil is a builder of high quality educational, institutional, commercial, and industrial facilities throughout Southern California. Their purpose is simple, they exist to serve by shaping futures. This is the core of who they have been for over 79 years and they achieve that purpose of "shaping futures" by turning 2-dimensional plans into 3-dimensional reality for their clients, providing life-long career development to their team members, and bettering communities through their service driven culture and philanthropy.

Tilden-Coil was founded on the philosophy of giving back. Tilden-Coil has a committee made up of passionate individuals who guide their philanthropic activities. Tilden-Coil Cares has raised over \$650,000 for local charities and community organizations. As a standing Title Sponsor for the Cerritos College Foundation Golf Classic, Tilden-Coil proudly supports the Foundation and the value it brings through its many programs.

Tilden-Coil is committed to educational partnerships. Since 2010, their team has worked collaboratively with the Cerritos College staff from the planning process to the finished project. They extend this partnership beyond the construction of the structure and help to build the futures of Cerritos students through internships, mentoring, and real world experience.

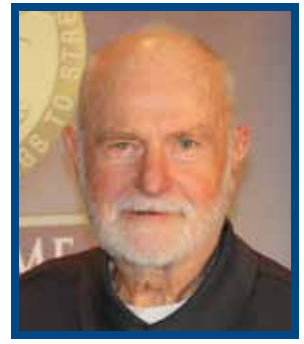
Accepting tonight's award is Dayne Brassard, executive vice president of Tilden-Coil Constructors, Inc. He has been a member of their team for 22 years and has worked in several capacities.



Distinguished President's Award of Excellence

John Jackson

Professor Emeritus of Automotive Technology



Hired on April 11, 1957 as one of Cerritos College's original faculty members, John Jackson played a key role in the development and transformation of our Automotive Technology program.

Throughout his 34-year tenure, John worked tirelessly to advance the program, cultivated key relationships with industry experts, and established long-term partnerships with major automotive conglomerates, many of which are still in place today.

In collaboration with colleagues, John developed new curriculum to keep students in front of industry changes. He was instrumental in procuring and implementing training programs with General Motors, Chrysler, and Ford providing students with highly marketable experience in the workplace. His efforts did not end once students graduated. He put in place partnerships with companies to provide students with valuable connections in the automotive field, including opportunities to secure paid internships and employment, and for instructors to enhance their skills with the latest technology. John was an exceptional teacher who touched the lives of many students.

John witnessed many changes in the automotive program during his time at Cerritos College – from the holding of classes in a residential garage and at Artesia High School, to the comprehensive state-of-the-art facility it is today. As a faculty member, John was highly revered by students, faculty, staff, and administrators. His vision for creating and maintaining a vibrant

automotive program continues to thrive, and is recognized statewide and nationally.

Although John retired in 1991, he continues to contribute to the college, the program, and automotive students through generous donations to the Foundation, establishment of a scholarship fund, frequent visits to campus, attendance at the Automotive Repair Advisory committee meetings, and as an active member of the Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association.





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**Edison International is proud to sponsor the
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*2017 Annual Hall of Fame Dinner and Awards***

We congratulate tonight's honorees.



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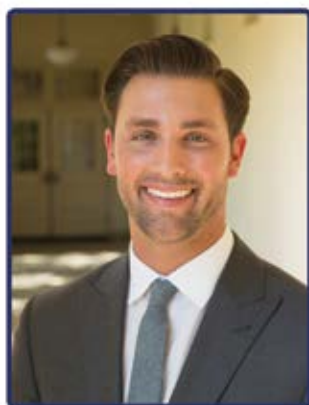


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Congratulations

*to this year's Hall of Fame
inductees!*



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The City of Norwalk congratulates
this year's inductees to the Cerritos College Hall of Fame.

Your outstanding contributions
help to bring honor, distinction and excellence
to this distinguished campus.



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On behalf of Senator Tony Mendoza & Letty Mendoza,
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congratulations to the Hall of Fame honorees!

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CERRITOS
COLLEGE
FOUNDATION

The Cerritos College Foundation
is proud to be a sponsor for the
Cerritos College Hall of Fame
Dinner and Awards.

The Foundation Board of Directors wish to congratulate
the inductees to the Cerritos College Hall of Fame.

www.cerritos.edu/foundation

2012 Hall of Fame Inductees



Distinguished Female Athlete
Barbara Reinalda (Softball)

Distinguished Male Athlete
Ron Yary (Football)

Distinguished Coach
Wally Kincaid (Baseball)

Distinguished Alumnus
Dr. Gerald P. Roodzant (Class of 1973)

Distinguished Classified/Confidential
John Gallant (Academic Affairs)

Distinguished Faculty
Dr. Edward Bloomfield (Philosophy)

Distinguished Corporate Partner
GST, Inc. (J.P. and Alice Wang)

2013 Hall of Fame Inductees



Distinguished Female Athlete
Traci Dahl (Volleyball)

Distinguished Male Athlete
Marcelo Balboa (Soccer)

Distinguished Coach/Administrator
Gene Martin (Football, Track & Volleyball)

Distinguished Alumnus
Dr. Gary Smuts (Class of 1970)

Distinguished Classified
Shelley Pesanti (Communications Center)

Distinguished Faculty
Bill Lewis (Speech Communications)

Distinguished Corporate Partner
Conant Auto Retail Group (Dave Conant)

Distinguished President's Award of Excellence
Dr. Wilford & Jean Michael

2014 Hall of Fame Inductees



Distinguished Female Athlete
Shelley Hall (Basketball)

Distinguished Male Athlete
Antonio McKee (Wrestling)

Distinguished Coach
Nancy Kelly (Softball)

Distinguished Alumnus
Eric Draper (Class of 1985)

Distinguished Classified
Carmen Garcia (Communications Center)

Distinguished Faculty
John Boyle (Biology)

Distinguished Corporate Partner
Southern California Edison (Ron L. Litzinger)

Distinguished President's Award of Excellence
Nello Di Corpo

2015 Hall of Fame Inductees



Distinguished Female Athlete
Vernecia Smith (Track and Field)

Distinguished Male Athlete
Bob Vaughn (Baseball)

Distinguished Coach
Rhea Black (Badminton/Tennis/Volleyball)

Distinguished Alumnus
The Honorable Peter Espinoza (Class of 1975)

Distinguished Classified
Beverly Sweet (Health, Physical Education, and Athletics)

Distinguished Faculty
Dr. Marijean Piorkowski (Physical Therapist Assistant)

Distinguished Corporate Partner
Kaiser Permanente (Jim Branchick)

Distinguished President's Award of Excellence
Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe

2016 Hall of Fame Inductees



Distinguished Female Athlete

Teresa Velazquez-Ortega (Volleyball)

Distinguished Male Athlete

Dr. Danny Garcia (Water Polo/Swimming)

Distinguished Coach

Jack Bogdanovich (Men's Basketball)

Distinguished Alumnus

Tony Rodriguez, Jr. (Class of 1969)

Distinguished Classified

Debbie Thomas (Staff Development)

Distinguished Faculty

Jon Fults (Business Computer Information Systems)

Distinguished Corporate Partner

Union Bank (Victor Villegas)

Distinguished President's Award of Excellence

California Assemblymember Anthony Rendon

Hall of Fame

Steering Committee

Dan Clauss, *Athletics Director*
Dr. Jose Fierro, *President/Superintendent*
Michelle Lewellen, *Professor of Psychology & Faculty Senate President*
Jeanie McHatton, *Cerritos College Foundation Board Member*
Stephanie Minami, *College Foundation Secretary*
Mazen Nabulsi, *Cerritos College Alumni & Cerritos College Foundation Board Member*
Steve Richardson, *Executive Director of Foundation & Community Advancement*
Debbie Thomas, *Retired Classified Employee*
Cheryl Thury, *Administrative Assistant (Confidential)*
John Van Gaston, *Sports Information Publicist*

Distinguished Athletics Award Subcommittee

Dean Ackland, *Retired Coordinator of Student Activities*
Dan Clauss, *Athletics Director*
Debbie Jensen, *Professor of Health, Physical Education & Athletics*
Kodee Murray, *Head Coach Women's Softball*
Russ May, *Head Coach Men's Basketball*
Jeanine Prindle, *Professor Emeritus Physical Education*
John Van Gaston, *Sports Information Publicist*

Distinguished Alumnus Award Subcommittee

Toni Grijalva, *Community Relations Coordinator*
Tom Jackson, *Professor Emeritus of Accounting & Cerritos College Foundation Board Member*
Amna Jara, *Student Activities Coordinator*
Mazen Nabulsi, *Cerritos College Alumni & Cerritos College Foundation Board Member*
Saul Lopez, *ASCC Student Body President*
Tony Rodriguez Jr., *Cerritos College Alumni and 2016 Recipient*

Distinguished Classified/Confidential Award Subcommittee

Kim Applebury, *Administrative Secretary II (Counseling)*
John Gallant, *Retired Confidential Employee and 2012 Hall of Fame Recipient*
Marcia Taylor, *Disabled Students Program Specialist*
Etta Walton, *Theatre Production Coordinator*
David Ward, *Theatre Technical Design Specialist*

Distinguished Faculty Award Subcommittee

Craig Breit, *Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts*
Michelle Lewellen, *Professor of Psychology*
Manuel Lopez, *Professor of Mathematics*
Dr. Solomon Namala, *Professor of Economics*
Traci Ukita, *Counselor*

Distinguished Corporate Partner Award Subcommittee

Steve Richardson, *Executive Director of Foundation & Community Advancement*
Cerritos College Foundation Executive Committee

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