

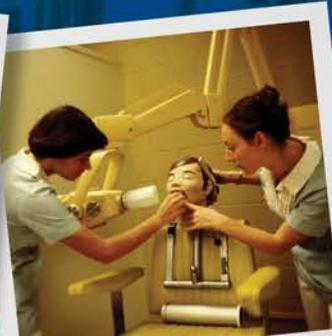


# 65<sup>TH</sup>

Cerritos College

## ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating 65 Years  
of Student Success and  
Academic Excellence  
1955 - 2020



On June 10, 1955, residents of Bellflower, Downey, Norwalk, La Mirada, Artesia, Bloomfield, and Carmenita Elementary school districts voted to establish the Excelsior Junior College District, which would later become Cerritos College. On September 17, 1955, the Board of Trustees passed a \$6-million bond to officially build Cerritos College. Instruction on campus began in 1956 with 197 students enrolled in classrooms rented from the Excelsior High School District. Today, Cerritos College serves more than 21,000 students and offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Cerritos College continues to be a leader in innovative programs and initiatives, including Teacher TRAC, Court 2 College (C2C), iFalcon, Cerritos Complete, to name a few.

During September 2020, Cerritos College celebrated 65 years of student success. While we could not host on-campus festivities, a few [virtual events](#) were held to highlight more than six decades of excellence. The 65th Anniversary Memory Book is a collection of memories, well wishes and commendations.



Cerritos College  
65<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary



Cerritos College  
65 Fantastic Things



# A Walk Down Memory Lane





# Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence

# 1955-2020



*"I have several great memories from the past 14 years working at Cerritos. One of my favorite memories is when I had the opportunity to mentor a group of students from the Accounting program in 2016. We talked, we laughed, we cried, and we celebrated their successes and hopes for the years to follow. Thank you so much, Professor Peter Moloney for reaching out to me and making this connection with the students possible."*

Dr. Adriana Flores-Church  
Vice President of Human Resources/Assistant Superintendent

*"I have lived across the street from Cerritos College since 1975. It has changed immensely, especially in the last few years with the remodeling of the administrative buildings, the building of the Learning Resource Center, Maintenance Department, new Science Buildings, Arts Building and now the Visual and Performing Arts Center. I love to walk through campus and see the beauty of the architecture. Love it more when the students are there...sure hope that is soon!"*

Jeanie McHatton  
Cerritos College Foundation 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Former Cerritos College Board of Trustees Member

*"I have been inspired by the campus community and seeing everyone pull together while working from home during unprecedented times."*

Hugh Nguyen  
Human Resources  
Technician I  
(Confidential)





*"My earliest memories of Cerritos College, include my time enrolled in the Child Development Center in the early 1990's. Specifically attending a performance of Charlotte's Web with my class in the Burnight Center Theatre. I've had a unique experience having a family member, my Mom (Toni), work at Cerritos College my whole life. After attending the Child Development Center, as I was growing up, I would frequently attend events on campus. Once I became a student, I would often volunteer at various campus events. In 2009 I joined the Associated Students of Cerritos College (ASCC) as a Court Justice and was appointed to Chief Justice the following year. At the Spring 2010 ASCC Awards Banquet, I received the Woman of the Year award.*

*My experience in ASCC and being involved with Student Activities programs directly relates to my career today. I am a Student Government Advisor at the community college level and use my experiences as a student leader as well as the great advice and leadership provided by my advisor in ASCC, Holly Bogdanovich, and the fantastic staff in Student Activities to advise and guide my students today. My accomplishments at Cerritos and all the great relationships that were built are the reason I chose my career path."*

Suzanne (Grijalva) Ortega  
Cerritos College Alum



*"Coming from the public sector, I remember the first time walking during the spring time and students were everywhere. I thought to myself, this feels right, this feels exciting, I think I'm going to like it here. So I guess I do, it's been 20 years!"*

Margo Winners  
Graphic Artist

*"My mother attended Cerritos College and attained her A.A in Criminal Justice in 1972. As a teenager, I attended her graduation. Little did I know, 30 years later, I would be maintaining the same campus she walked along.*

*My employment interview here was very memorable. Everyone on panel was exceptionally pleasant. It was a great experience. I am so grateful I work here. I have watched this campus grow to look like a university. I love the way this administration celebrates and supports the students with recreational activities, field trips, retreats, mental health fairs and job fairs. Cerritos College is a lighthouse to the community."*

Sharon Plump  
Groundskeeper



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**



*“The people you work with are just, when you get down to it, your very best friends.— Michael Scott (The Office)”*

*“I have made some amazing friendships ever since I began my professional career here at Cerritos College in 2004. I am thankful for the Cerritos College family who has been there for me through my ups and downs. It’s been an absolute pleasure to serve our students with the dedicated and service-oriented Falcon team.”*

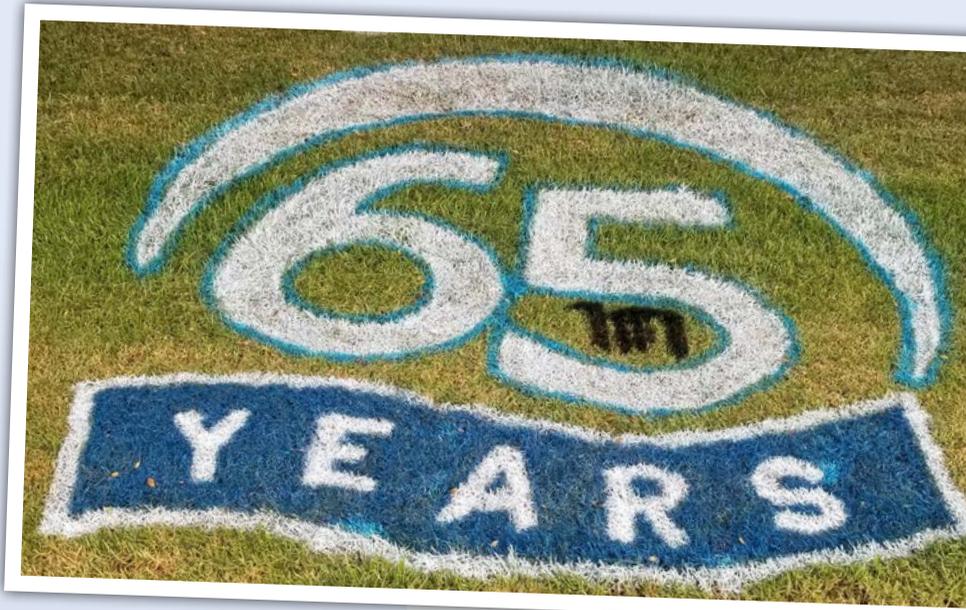
Amna Jara  
Student Activities Coordinator



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**

*“As we celebrate 65 years of academic success, we have enjoyed marketing, promoting, planning and assisting with many Cerritos College programs and events. We are honored to have showcased many of our students, faculty and staff accomplishments, often with news media coverage, through the years. We proudly represent Cerritos College through our partnerships with our elected officials, local cities, chambers of commerce, businesses and the surrounding community. Here’s to 65 more years of serving our students!”*

Cerritos College Public Affairs  
Miya Walker, Aya Abelon, Toni Grijalva, Kelly Kwan,  
Margo Winners, Samuel Chavez and Irma Gorrocino



*“I was hired during COVID-19 and have met my colleagues via Zoom. I have volunteered for the L.A. Food Banks held on campus and am looking forward to working on campus and meeting everyone in person.”*

Michael Meadors  
Human Resources Analyst  
(Confidential)



*“In celebration of the College’s 65th Anniversary I painted the logo on grass in Falcon Square. Go Falcons!”*

Bryan Leighliter  
Lead Groundskeeper



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**



*“My earliest memory is when Speech Department Chair, Julie Venitsky called to tell me I was being offered the job and when Bill Lewis, my esteemed colleague saw me at the elevator in the Social Science building and said that for a moment, he thought I was a student and didn’t recognize me as his colleague!!! One of my fondest memories was when Vice President Randall in my fourth year at Cerritos and we placed 4th in Nationals at the Phi Rho Pi tournament teased me and said What? We didn’t win first!!! (4th was a happy memory for me) and then when we won the National Debate championship in 1979.*

*Throughout all of my years, everyone continued to be caring for students and each other and always wanted our students to succeed. We evolved in terms of who was there but the commitment to doing our best job and helping our students never changed. We had some challenging times but those don’t ever take precedence over the many, many good years I had at the college. We became a leader in technology, took the lead developing relationships with area high schools, and I am forever grateful that although I drove to Cerritos over 11,000 times in my career. I felt like I had different jobs because I had the privilege of being a Professor, an Instructional Dean of Liberal Arts, and an interim Vice President. I never would have left Cerritos to take a position anywhere else! Cerritos is always the best job I ever could have had!!!”*

Donna Miller  
Emeritus Professor of Speech Communications



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence



*“A fun memory I have was when I trained and participated in a Tough Mudder Run with our Cerritos College Students Veterans Team in April 2019. Training for this type of race is a one-of-a-kind experience that allows teams to work together towards a common goal, and for individuals to prove to themselves what they are truly made of.*”

*In March 2020, we were forced to refocus our efforts to ensure each other’s continued safety in a time of uncertainty. We moved our classes to an online format and transitioned all of our services to a remote environment--all of this over the course of a couple of short weeks. All of us continue to make incredible adjustments to every aspect of our lives; this is especially true for our students who have counted on Cerritos College as a pathway to a better life.*

*Through these unforeseen challenges, I have observed our staff, managers, faculty, and administrators rise to the occasion to keep the campus running. I have heard from students that although this is a tough time, they are pushing through the uncertainty and anxiety to finish their educational plans. I am excited that our students remain engaged and active with our campus. They have shown resilience and determination.*

*Our common goal is to ensure our students stay the course and finish strong. I would like to thank our staff for accommodating the transition while continuing to keep Service Excellence in mind to support our students and their colleagues. There is no doubt that these are unprecedented times, and we will get through this together.”*

Dr. Jose Fierro  
President/Superintendent



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence 1955-2020



*"Happy 65th Birthday Cerritos College. The Cerritos Triathlon Club thanks you for providing us a place to express our personalities through fitness!! We couldn't think of a better school to represent! Here's to another 65!"*

*"My earliest memory was helping my much younger sister-in-law find Cerritos College for summer school, when the class she needed at ELAC was full. The biggest change I have seen is the passage of AB 705 and how it has changed our students' math completion and success. I am grateful for the ability to be respectful to my colleagues, even if we disagree on policies. The most significant event during my tenure has been the hiring of Dr. Jose Fierro. His commitment, leadership and vision have been so inspiring for all of us."*

Marisa Perez  
Trustee, Area 4

*"My earliest memory of Cerritos College was how helpful some of my co-workers were in providing training and support in helping me develop the skills and knowledge necessary for me to be successful in carrying out my work responsibilities. The biggest change I witnessed at Cerritos College was when 'The Village' (California's first Community College housing exclusively for student facing homelessness) was opened. This was a significant gesture that highlighted the sensitivity of the College towards disadvantaged and low-income students.*

*My experience at Cerritos College that I still carry with me today is how appreciative managers are after every recruitment period. They always make a point of providing symbolic gifts and thank you notes to let me know that my work is greatly appreciated."*

Edith Finney  
Human Resources Technician I (Confidential)



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence 1955-2020**



*"My earliest memory was when Dr. Stephen Johnson and Shannon Estrada were directing traffic in parking lot 3 and I pulled up for my final interview. It was about 100° outside and the Pepsi delivery truck was trapped because the District was resurfacing the parking lot. It was an interesting moment, and the heat was unbearable, but they made everything work out ok and they made the moment very welcoming."*

Nancy Buvinger  
Director of Human Resources/  
Risk Management



*"As I complete my 34th year as a full-time employee of Cerritos College, some of my fondest memories are of the life-long connections I have made with many ASCC student leaders. I am honored to have played a small part in helping them accomplish their educational and career goals. They all continue to serve their community and Cerritos College in many ways."*

Toni Grijalva  
Community Relations Coordinator



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**



*“My earliest memory of Cerritos College was my college experience and the faculty who helped me through my academic experience. I will never forget the Backpacking Course and end of semester trip to Mammoth, taking the motorcycle class, and being able to easily transfer to university.”*

*After receiving my Bachelor’s degree from Cal State Fullerton, I was hired as an employee at Cerritos College. I served as a Student Club Advisor, worked with others on projects, committees, and helped at the food bank distribution. These will always be positive experiences for me that I share about and will carry these memories with me forever.*

*ANY event that the college hosted, I always wanted to participate. I feel lucky to work on a campus with celebration of holidays, cultures, awareness, and great food! Now that we are unable to have in-person events, I definitely did not take the events for granted.”*

Rebecca Pang  
Human Resources Technician II (Confidential)  
Cerritos College Alum

*“My family moved out to the county, Cerritos, in 1969 from Los Angeles. Studebaker Road was a two-lane road with dairies on both sides starting at South Street. My earliest memory of Cerritos College was driving up Studebaker and knowing when we reached the College because of the round building. I later learned that was the Science lecture hall. It was sad to see it go.*



*I attended Gahr High School and the Class of 1981 was the last GHS class to graduate at the College football stadium. The high school had started building its own stadium my senior year, but it wasn’t finished in time. We even took our Senior Class picture in the bleachers of the football stadium. I have great memories of the*

*GHS football home games being played at Cerritos College.*

*I have a lot of fond memories of the College as it has been a staple in my life since I was six years old. My siblings and I attended the College as did my daughters. You can imagine how thrilled I was to be hired and become even more a part of the Cerritos College Family in 2003. Life took me away from the area for about 20 years, but it sure was nice to come home.”*

Donna Sheibe  
Administrative Assistant (Confidential)  
Human Resources  
Cerritos College Alum



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence 1955-2020**

*"I have so many memories to share. Below are a few highlights.*

- *Miriam Tolson making me feel welcome on my first day.*
- *Cheryl Thury handing me the keys to the President's cart because walking in the heat pregnant is unbearable. He is now 18 years old!*
- *Toni Grijalva and her daughter Suzanne making sure I passed math so I can finally earn an AA degree.*
- *Listening to Shirley Arceo talk to high school students about going to college was incredible.*
- *Rebecca Pang letting me text her all hours with event ideas.*
- *Margo Winners knowing I need a shoulder to cry on just by looking at my face.*
- *Rachel Samarin's phone call telling me my dream job just opened. Her and Toni helping me put a resume together. I got the job!*
- *Jeanne Harmon and Megalis Guyness picking up a table and walking across a quad no questions asked.*



- *Kim Applebury helping my brother understand how important his counselor visits are so he can graduate. He did graduate!*
- *Monica Castro committing us to eating healthy at work unless she wants cake that day!*
- *Listening to Paul Bleak's natural grace at giving customer service to students is a constant reminder of why we are here.*
- *Edith Finney's laugh...making anyone that walks into Human Resources Office feel welcomed.*
- *Giving Sarah Pirtle a scribbled piece of paper that says, "years of service" and her turning it into a sign for our years of service portraits.*
- *Donna Sheibe's impeccable eagle eye for spotting spelling and grammar mistakes which I truly appreciate.*

*I can say that the people were as extraordinary back then as they are now. I am happy to be part of the Cerritos College Family!"*

Monica Acuna  
Staff Development Assistant



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**

*“In my 41 years at Cerritos, there were many big changes that I witnessed. The rapid growth of the student population and the changing diversity of our students were amazing. Thankfully, we had leadership that recognized that the campus had to expand and address this growth, not only in the number of classes, but in the expansion of curriculum to meet the growing demands, and with state-of-the-art facilities to promote student success . The Cerritos College campus today is almost unrecognizable from the one I first stepped onto in 1970 as it was only 15 years old - a teenager still with growing pains. Today, as a matured institution, Cerritos College has evolved to a campus with such a visual impact to our community. It continues to serve as beacon of what is best about the community college education and experience.*

*There are three experiences from my time at Cerritos College that will always be in my heart. First, it's the people you meet and work with. I'm so thankful I had a job that allowed me to not only interact with students and employees across the campus, but to work alongside community members who supported the various programs through Community Services and through the Cerritos College Foundation. I am so blessed by some of the lifelong friendships I made throughout my 41 years at Cerritos. My second experience was being honored as Classified Employee of the Year in 2015. To be recognized by your peers was so special and humbling, because there are so many other employees deserving of the honor as well. It was wonderful to have my dear friends and my son in attendance as well as all three of my bosses while at Cerritos College there to celebrate with me. I've always said I had the best job on campus and I still feel that way today. The last experience I want to share is being inducted into the Cerritos College Hall of Fame (Distinguished Classified) in March 2018. Just to be nominated was a gift in and of itself, but then to actually be the recipient of such an award, was overwhelming. It truly was such a memorable night being surrounded by my son, friends who are like my family, former co-workers, Foundation Board members, and three former bosses who came out to celebrate the honor with me. What a privilege it is to be included among those Hall of Fame inductees who helped to bring recognition, honor, distinction, and excellence to Cerritos College.*

(continued on next page)



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**

One very significant event or change for our campus was the formation of the Cerritos College Foundation in 1979 through the vision of the late Dr. Wilford Michael who was president/superintendent at the time and of Nello Di Corpo, now retired Dean of Community Services. There was a huge need for student support like scholarships and other program enhancements that could not be met using state-mandated funds. I watched leaders in our local communities come together with these men to work tirelessly for the Foundation to become a 501c3 non-profit organization and then not only donate their time but donate their own money to get the Foundation off the ground. Community support has always been vital to the success of Cerritos College. Do you know Cerritos College has a piece of American and international history on our campus? How many of you have seen the bell in the Quad of the Administration Building? Did you know it was on a submarine tender that survived the attack on Pearl Harbor and that its logo, Polly Pelio, was designed by none other than Walt Disney? So here's the backstory of the bell. It was brought to Nello Di Corpo's attention that the ASCC needed a new victory bell as theirs had been stolen. They contacted a salvage yard and found the

Pelias bell. Well, one of the Pelias crew members, then Lakewood resident Don Bongers, read the story (perhaps written by our Public Information office) about the bell in a local newspaper and contacted Mr. Di Corpo. He wanted to purchase the bell on behalf of the ship's surviving crew members. He explained the history of the USS Pelias and how the crew would have reunions all over the country each year to commemorate their time on the ship. They were a tight knit group! Well, Nello Di Corpo being one of the best and most creative advocates for Cerritos College, convinced Mr. Bongers to let the bell remain with the college and honor the Pelias crew with a special ceremony - the dedication of the bell from the USS Pelias on December 7, 1981, 40 years to the day of the attack on Pearl Harbor. So, on that beautiful Sunday morning, with music playing from the Naval band, crew members from all over the world (even as far away as Australia) converged on Cerritos College to dedicate the bell and the monument that displays it. They also donated thousands of dollars for a scholarship that bears the ship's name for engineering or physics students."

Janice Cole  
Retired Classified Employee



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence



*"In 2013, my family established the Dr. Antonio and Providence Rodriguez Memorial Speech Scholarship through the Foundation. Our father was a Cerritos College alum and full-time speech professor (1968-1989). With the support of our mother his educational journey was made possible. Education was important to them and we are proud to honor their legacy. I am also an alumni of Cerritos College and joined the Cerritos College family as a full-time employee in 1987. During my tenure, I have been blessed with incredible mentors, made life-long friends and have fond memories that I will cherish forever. I have seen the college continue to adapt and serve our communities needs throughout the years. I am proud to be a Falcon!"*

Cheryl Thury  
Administrative Assistant  
(Confidential)  
President's Office  
Cerritos College Alum



*"The biggest change I experienced upon graduation was full-time employment and progressive promotions from Instructional Services to Personnel Services and then to the President's Office. These progressive moves make up the stepping stones of my more than 37-year career path in service to the community college system. Being a graduate of Cerritos College and former employee is a badge of honor I wear proudly.*

*I witnessed facility upgrades and new buildings all across campus, but the biggest change for me was when the Lecture Hall was demolished. This very unique spider like building brought back memories of being a student long ago; it was very much a 50s-60s vibe. The new Science Building replaced the lecture hall and I hear it is quite fantastic. Another change during my time at Cerritos is the expansion on the backside of campus; first the senior living center, then Foundation Office and Security Offices and now there is more than I could have imagined.*

*I have so many fond memories that I cherish to this day. Life happened at Cerritos. I grew up, I joined the working force, I got married and I had children all while being a Falcon of Cerritos College. People came and went out of my life; co-workers, supervisors, students and relationships with the communities served by Cerritos College. Cerritos College is a **BIG** part of my life."*

Kennethia (Robertson) Vega  
Cerritos College Alum and Former Employee



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
CERRITOS COLLEGE!





Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success  
and Academic Excellence

1955-2020

# Foundation Donors

*“Congratulations to Cerritos College. I am privileged to be a part of Cerritos College student successes. My husband, Rick, would be so proud of how Cerritos College has evolved and continues to support students’ higher education dreams.”*

Judy Sterling  
Sterling Math Scholarship and Sterling  
Math Tutoring Program  
in Memory of Rick Sterling, Former Faculty



*“I send thanks to Cerritos College and the Cerritos College Foundation for allowing me to help make positive changes for students and provide fiduciary governance. I’m deeply grateful for the opportunity for my time as a servant leader and for the education and community provided to my wife, Teresa, and daughter, Monet, who are both alumnae. We wish everyone associated with Cerritos College incredible tidings on the celebration of its 65th year!”*

John and Teresa Moore  
John Moore, Former Cerritos College Trustee  
and Former Cerritos College Foundation Board of Director  
Teresa Moore and Monet Moore Cerritos College Alumna  
John Moore First Step Scholarship



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**



*“Congratulations to Cerritos College on its 65th Anniversary. I am so proud to be an alum and to help support students as they fulfill their dreams. Cerritos College does a great job creating student success and my scholarship is designed to help students further their higher education goals.”*

Mayor Blanca Pacheco

City of Downey

Cerritos College Alum '96 (Political Science)

Blanca Pacheco Scholarship for Women in

Liberal Arts



*“My heart is always with Cerritos College and the Cerritos College Foundation. My family and I send joy and felicitations to everyone involved in this wonderful community. Congratulations on 65 wonderful years.”*

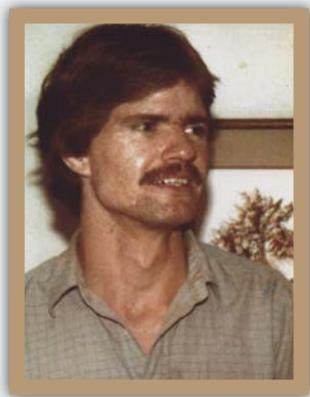
Parimal Shah

Cerritos College Alum '85 (Real Estate)

Cerritos College Campaign Leadership Committee, Community Task Force, Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee and Asian Culture Festival Organizer



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**



*“Congratulations to Cerritos College for helping students achieve success for 65 years! Our brother, John DeMott, did some of his finest artwork at Cerritos College under the guidance of Professor De Leon, earning a Best of Show award for Contemplation, a painting in the 1983 student art show. We appreciate being able to memorialize John with the annual John DeMott Art Scholarship.”*

Louis and Margaret DeMott-Feldman  
John DeMott Memorial Scholarship



*“Our family believes that education is one of the most important tools to empower people and satisfy their financial and professional needs. We congratulate Cerritos College as it celebrates 65 years of making a difference for students.”*

Bhupesh and Kumud Parikh and Family  
Cerritos College Bhupesh Parikh Student Hall  
Kumud Parikh and Family Endowed Scholarship



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence

*“Our beloved daughter and cousin, Darlene Gomez, had a future. She wanted to help children. The DSPS program at Cerritos College gave her the opportunity to make her dreams come true. She was a butterfly on campus, expressing herself, spreading her wings, because the expertly trained staff helped her gain confidence. This is what Cerritos College does for all its students. This is why our family gives. We want every student to find their wings. We congratulate Cerritos College on its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Thank you for creating a community of butterflies, and our angel.”*

Maria and Rosenda Salinas Gomez  
Elizabeth Mojicia-Colon  
Darlene Gomez Memorial Scholarship



*“We offer congratulations to Cerritos College on its 65th anniversary. We attended from 1981 to 1986 and we are grateful for the education, experiences, and connections made during our time on campus.”*

Gary and Steve Hormel  
Cerritos College Alumnae  
Gary and Steve Hormel Endowed Scholarship



**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success 1955-2020  
and Academic Excellence**



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success  
and Academic Excellence

1955-2020

# Commendations



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success  
and Academic Excellence

1955-2020



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition Presented to

# CERRITOS COLLEGE

In honor and recognition of your 65 years of excellent service to our community. Thank you for serving as a lifeline to students and residents who are seeking to gain access to a quality, higher education.

*September 17, 2020*

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Linda T. Sanchez'.

LINDA T. SANCHEZ  
Member of Congress



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success  
and Academic Excellence

1955-2020



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD  
40TH DISTRICT  
CALIFORNIA

*Certificate of  
Congressional Recognition*

*Presented to:*

*Cerritos College*

*In appreciation and celebration of your 65 years  
of offering comprehensive, high-quality, affordable  
education and career training, which now includes over  
180 areas of study and 87 degree and certificate programs*

*Congratulations!*

*17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020*

*Lucille Roybal-Allard*  
**LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**  
Member of Congress  
40<sup>th</sup> District



Not Printed At Government Expense.



# Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence

# 1955-2020



**ABC** Unified School District  
*Proclamation*

**Whereas**, Cerritos Community College was established in June 1955, and began classes in September 1956 with 10 teachers, offering instruction in 15 subjects, with an enrollment of 197 students; and

**Whereas**, Cerritos Community College has grown from offering instruction at Artesia and Excelsior High Schools to breaking ground for its own 135 acre campus in 1959; and

**Whereas**, Cerritos Community College has far exceeded the expectations of its founders and celebrated the education of 250,000 students at its 25th anniversary in 1980; and

**Whereas**, Cerritos Community College monitors the pulse of job trends, offers support programs for freshman and students with unique learning needs, keeps pace with educational technology tools, develops global partnerships, and

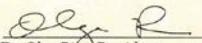
**Whereas**, Cerritos Community College has emerged as an educational leader serving a highly diverse campus of 22,574 students, including 94 international students representing 28 countries from the communities of Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada, and Norwalk; and

**Now, therefore**, the Board of Education on behalf of ABC Unified School District, takes great pleasure in hereby honoring, for 65 years of distinguished service

*Cerritos Community College*

Proclaimed, this seventeenth day of September 2020.

  
Dr. Mary Sue  
Superintendent

  
Dr. Olga Ribes, President  
Board of Education



Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success  
and Academic Excellence

1955-2020

**Our surrounding cities declared  
September 17, 2020 as  
Cerritos College Day!**



# Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence

# 1955-2020

## City of Cerritos



### PROCLAMATION

Whereas, The City of Cerritos congratulates Cerritos College on the occasion of its 65th anniversary in September 2020; and

Whereas, On June 10, 1955, citizens of Bellflower, Downey, Norwalk, La Mirada, Artesia, Bloomfield and Carmenita elementary school districts voted in favor of forming a junior college district, which would later become Cerritos College; and

Whereas, For 65 years, Cerritos College has served as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles communities, including Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada and Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate; and

Whereas, Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions, and enrolls approximately 21,000 diverse students; and

Whereas, Cerritos College is committed to providing high quality, comprehensive instructional programs and support services that improve student success and offer clear pathways to achieve personal, educational and career goals;

Now, Therefore, I, Mayor Naresh Solanki, and the members of the City Council of the City of Cerritos, do hereby proclaim September 17, 2020 as

### Cerritos College Day

in commemoration of the college's 65th anniversary.

Proclaimed, This tenth day of September, 2020.



*Naresh Solanki*  
Mayor Naresh Solanki

*Chung Vo*  
Mayor Pro Tem Chung Vo

*Bruce W. Barrows*  
Councilmember Bruce W. Barrows

*Grace Au*  
Councilmember Grace Au

*Frank Arealio Yokoyama*  
Councilmember Frank Arealio Yokoyama



# Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence

# 1955-2020

*City of Lakewood*  
**Proclamation**  
*Honoring Cerritos College*

**On the Occasion of its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
**September 17, 2020**

*WHEREAS, Cerritos College is one of the country's leading, comprehensive community colleges located in the southeastern portion of Los Angeles County and is celebrating its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary, filled with a rich history and legacy of academic excellence and scholarship; and*

*WHEREAS, on September 17, 1955 the first Board of Trustees at Cerritos College passed a \$6 million construction bond passed by a 4-1 vote to begin construction and on September 11, 1956, Cerritos College offered its first classes to 197 students in rented classrooms at Excelsior High School; and*

*WHEREAS, Cerritos now offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions, and enrolls approximately 21,000 diverse students, proving itself as a leader in developing innovative, award-winning programs and initiatives to support student success, including the Cerritos Complete Promise Program, Teacher TRAC, and Court 2 College. It also offers award-winning career technical education programs including Culinary Arts, Engineering Technology, Machine Tool Technology and many more; and*

*WHEREAS, Cerritos College is dedicated to its mission to serve a diverse student population and is committed to providing these students with high quality, comprehensive instructional programs and support services that improve student success and offer clear pathways to achieve personal, educational, and career goals, helping develop and prepare productive participants in the global community.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Todd Rogers, Mayor of Lakewood, on behalf of the Lakewood City Council, do hereby congratulate Cerritos College on their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary and recognize the significant educational, cultural, and economic contributions made to the community for more than six decades, serving as a lifeline to students and residents seeking access to a quality, higher education.**

  
**TODD ROGERS**  
MAYOR





# Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence

# 1955-2020



CITY OF LA MIRADA

## *Proclamation*

RECOGNITION OF CERRITOS COLLEGE  
FOR ITS 65<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AND  
COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 17 AS CERRITOS COLLEGE DAY

**WHEREAS**, Cerritos College is one of the country's leading, comprehensive community colleges located in southeastern Los Angeles County;

**WHEREAS**, on June 10, 1955, residents of Bellflower, Downey, Norwalk, La Mirada, Artesia, Bloomfield, and Carmenita Elementary School Districts voted to establish the Excelsior Junior College District, which would later become Cerritos College;

**WHEREAS**, Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions, and enrolls approximately 21,000 diverse students;

**WHEREAS**, Cerritos College developed state-of-the-art facilities and resources to improve its learning environment with support of voters in 2004 and 2012, who approved \$510-million in general obligation bonds to modernize Cerritos College with new facilities and infrastructure upgrades; and

**WHEREAS**, Cerritos College is dedicated to its mission to serve a diverse student population and is committed to providing these students with high quality, comprehensive instructional programs and support services that improve student success and offer clear pathways to achieve personal, educational, and career goals. The college develops in students the knowledge, skills, and values that prepare them to be productive participants in the global community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John Lewis, Mayor of the City of La Mirada, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize Cerritos College for its 65 years of service to the community and commemorate September 17 as Cerritos College Day.

  
JOHN LEWIS  
MAYOR

September 8, 2020

DATE



# Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence

# 1955-2020



## C I T Y O F N O R W A L K

### Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Cerritos College is one of the country's leading, comprehensive community colleges located in the southeastern portion of Los Angeles County, with a rich history and legacy of academic excellence and scholarship; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 10, 1955, residents of Bellflower, Downey, Norwalk, La Mirada, Artesia, Bloomfield and Carmenita Elementary school districts voted to establish the Excelsior Junior College, which would later become Cerritos College; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 17, 1955, the first Board of Trustees at Cerritos College passed a \$6 million construction bond to begin construction on Cerritos College; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 11, 1956, Cerritos College offered its first classes to 197 students in rented classrooms at Excelsior High School; and

**WHEREAS**, in September 2020, Cerritos College celebrates 65 years of excellence to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, today Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions, and enrolls approximately 21,000 diverse students; and

**WHEREAS**, Cerritos College is a steadfast leader in developing innovative, award-winning programs and initiatives to support student success, including the Cerritos Complete Promise Program, Teacher TRAC, Court 2 College (C2C), and offers award-winning career technical education programs including Culinary Arts, Engineering Technology, Machine Tool Technology, New Product Development, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting, Physical Therapist Assistant, Infant/Toddler Teacher, Welding and Woodworking; and

**WHEREAS**, Cerritos College is dedicated to its mission to serve a diverse student population and is committed to providing these students with high quality, comprehensive instructional programs and support services that improve student success and to offer clear pathways to achieve personal, educational and career goals.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Jennifer Perez, Mayor of the City of Norwalk, on behalf of Vice Mayor Tony Ayala, and my fellow Council Members Rick Ramirez, Margarita L. Rios, and Ana Valencia hereby proclaim September 17, 2020 as

#### **CERRITOS COLLEGE DAY**

in the City of Norwalk. We commend the Cerritos College Board of Trustees, President/Superintendent, faculty and staff for developing in students the knowledge, skills and values to be productive, thriving participants in the global community.

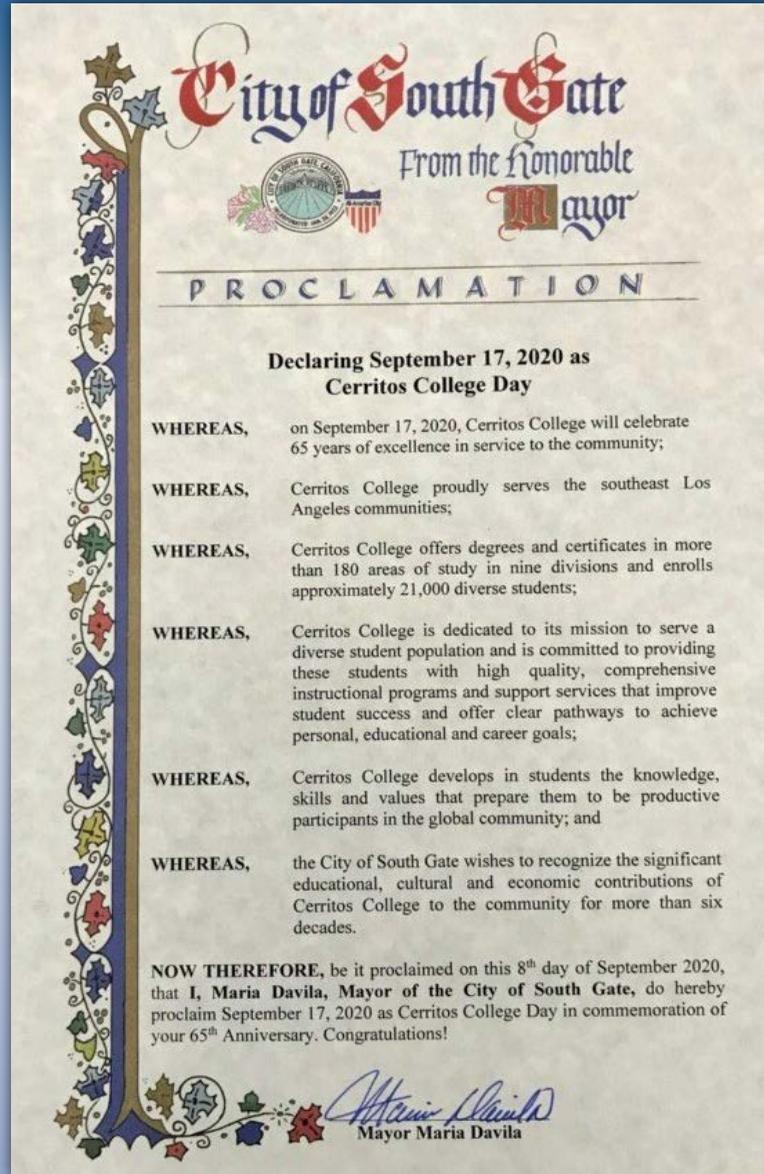
**DATED**, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

  
Jennifer Perez, Mayor



# Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success and Academic Excellence

# 1955-2020





**Celebrating 65 Years of Student Success  
and Academic Excellence**  
1955-2020