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## **Cerritos College Opens Stunning New Performing Arts Center**

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**NORWALK, Calif. – July 14, 2022 –** On July 14, Cerritos College celebrated the grand opening of the Performing Arts Center with over 350 community members in attendance.

The Performance Arts Center features a 400-seat theater, general-purpose classrooms, a 100-seat lecture and recital hall, a computer lab, and support spaces. The building also houses the Music Department's instructional labs, band and choir rooms, teaching and practice rooms, and faculty offices.

The state-of-the-art facility features Yamaha and Bösendorfer grand pianos purchased through a generous \$500,000 gift from late music professor Dr. Connie Mayfield and her mother, Lois Mayfield. Dr. Mayfield's love of music will live on with these top-of-the-line instruments that will become a source of learning and joy for countless students.

On the Theatre Department's side, the Center houses instructional labs for lighting and rigging, a makeup lab, a costume lab, dressing rooms, a green room, and a scene shop with an outdoor work yard.

The Performing Arts Center is also green-certified and meets the sustainability requirements of the U.S. Green Building Council. The Center is the campus's second green-certified project funded through its bond construction program.

"We are thankful to our community for supporting the construction of this beautiful, student-centered facility," said Dr. Jose Fierro, Cerritos College President/Superintendent. "The new Performing Arts Center will serve as a cultural hub for our campus and community, providing students with a creative learning environment to develop their skills. A powerful combination of student-centered spaces, highly skilled faculty, and innovative curriculum is what brings this building to life and translates to student success for generations to come."

**About Cerritos College:** Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college's district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs, and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies. Enrollment currently averages 21,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at <http://www.cerritos.edu>.

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