

Cerritos Community College District • 11110 Alondra Blvd. • Norwalk CA 90650 • www.cerritos.edu
View the online release here: <http://www.cerritos.edu/releases-2023/04/TM.htm>

Cerritos College Student Journalists Celebrate “Golden” Moments

Student newspaper *Talon Marks* two-peats best news website award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 26, 2023

Media Contact: [Aya Aoki](#); Public Affairs

NORWALK, Calif. – April 26, 2023 – Cerritos College's [Talon Marks](#) newspaper team recently won the best two-year college news website award at the annual Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) Spring National College Media Conference in San Francisco, capturing the honor for two years in a row. The event was attended by more than 750 students and faculty from community colleges and universities throughout California. The *Talon Marks* team competed with 1,200 community colleges and universities from all over the state.



Talon Marks team at the conference

The *Talon Marks* team redesigned the entire website layout and overhauled its social media, according to Samuel Chacko, editor-in-chief of *Talon Marks* "I spent countless hours thinking of ideas and implementing [Sports Center](#), an idea that no other community college has done. Inputting data including the scores, rosters, players, etc. was a ton of work. Without the tireless work of the staff for the past two years, none of this will be possible. Everyone participated in making this website look great," said Chacko, who is transferring to Cal State Long Beach to pursue a bachelor's degree in journalism this fall.

The [\\$20,000 grant the College received from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association](#) (HFPA) to foster diverse voices in the College's journalism program in 2022 allowed journalism students to attend the conference. The Cerritos College student journalists' conference experience was featured on [GoldenGlobes.com](#).

"Thanks to funds from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, we were able to take 16 journalism students to San Francisco to learn from the industry's best -- and they took full advantage of the opportunity," said Christian Brown, professor of journalism and mass communications department chair at Cerritos College. "For many of them, it was their first time out of Southern California, and they took away valuable lessons on student media laws, digital storytelling skills, and how to get a job

once they graduate. ACP was such an amazing networking and learning experience for our students with media professionals on site to inspire our students to grow as content creators."

Cerritos College has a long-standing relationship with the HFPA. From 2015 to 2017, the Cerritos College Culinary Arts students assisted with the Golden Globe Awards dinner at the Beverly Hilton for three years in a row.

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/>.*

-END-