Cerritos College Foundation awards two new scholarships

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 27, 2011

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NORWALK, Calif. - May 27, 2011 - The Cerritos College Foundation awarded two newly established student scholarships at its board meeting on Thursday, May 19.

Joey Berumen, of Norwalk, received the $500 Dorothy Thompson Memorial Scholarship. Established in memory of former re-entry student Dorothy Thompson, this scholarship is awarded to an outstanding journalism student. Thompson returned to school at the age of 67 and was voted Homecoming Queen in 1987.

Joey Berumen discovered his love for journalism in eighth grade while taking a newspaper class as an elective. He was editor-in-chief of his high school newspaper and once he began attending Cerritos College, he became editor-in-chief of Talon Marks. He was recently hired at the Los Angeles Daily Journal where he is putting his experience to use. Berumen will be transferring to a four year university next year to pursue his bachelor's degree and master's degree. His goal is to one day become a Los Angeles Times journalist and eventually return to the classroom as a journalism instructor.

The $500 Elizabeth O'Donnell Hamman Memorial Scholarship was presented to Ana Garibay of Downey. The scholarship was recently established in memory of Elizabeth O'Donnell Hamman, sister of Patrick O'Donnell, manager of information technology and daughter of Dodie O'Donnell, former faculty senate clerk at Cerritos College.

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Hamman, who was a mathematics professor, found her calling while attending Cerritos College. The scholarship is awarded to outstanding female students who are interested in pursuing a career in math.

Ana Garibay has had a passion for math since mastering the multiplication table in third grade. After working one on one with a teacher’s aide, she realized how easy math was for her and has loved it ever since. Garibay has been an active member of the Math Club as well as the Teacher TRAC program on campus. She will be transferring to California State University, Long Beach, this fall and plans on becoming a high school math teacher.

The Cerritos College Foundation, a non-profit organization, serves as a charitable vehicle for the community, individuals and alumni, to assist with financial support of Cerritos College. Visit the Foundation online at www.cerritos.edu/foundation.

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, and enrollment currently averages 23,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at http://www.cerritos.edu/.

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