



# NEWS

El Camino College Compton Center  
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**For Immediate Release**

**December 8, 2008**

## **El Camino College Compton Center Hosted an Extraordinary Fashion Show with Style and Attitude**

El Camino College Compton Center was the place to be for fashion, music, dance, poetry and remarkable talent and style on December 4 when students presented "DWA: Designers with Attitude." Mark your calendars for next year at this time as the fashion show is not to be missed. The more than 200 attendees would wholeheartedly agree.

The fashion show, hosted by Compton Center's Fashionistaz Fashion Club, showcased the exceptional talents of students taking classes in design, clothing construction, advanced sewing, fashion merchandising entrepreneurship and cosmetology. The student designed clothing ranged from sleepwear to beachwear to eveningwear as well as casual attire. Lisa King, a student who is a t-shirt designer, started her business and then decided to enroll in the business program at Compton Center. Natalie Caplinger was pleased to be in her first fashion show and have the opportunity "to get her work out there and be more noticed."

Priscilla Ratcliff, a part-time professor, fashion designer and biochemist, masterfully coordinated every aspect of the event and served as commentator. She encouraged her students to have a plan A--get an education, and a plan B and C--develop your talent to pursue a career and have back-up plan. She clearly demonstrated her experience in the fashion industry and exuded enthusiasm and support for her students. She said: "I am so proud of my students. My love and hope is to bring the community together and get all of our classes filled."

In addition to seeing the creativity of the multi-talented students in the fashion program, music technology students demonstrated their abilities by providing the musical accompaniment for the event. Students in classes in commercial music, audio recording, the music business and songwriting were well represented. The audience enjoyed the vocal talents of Jacob Lusk, who led off the day's festivities with a holiday selection along with Kijafa Iles, a sociology major with an interest in singing and songwriting. Professor Harvey Estrada, an accomplished musician and the director of the Commercial Music Technology Department at Compton Center, described his students' participation in the fashion show "...as a great opportunity to apply things they have learned in their classes and use their creative talents in front of a live audience."

Rodney Murray, dean of career technology education, summed up the event as "fantastic." He gave kudos to professor Ratcliff for her great energy and coordination

with departments throughout the campus. He looks forward to developing a full-time fashion department at Compton Center.

For information about the fashion program, call 310-900-1600, ext. 2802 or contact Professor Priscilla Ratcliff at 310-967-2001 or via email at [pratcliff@elcamino.edu](mailto:pratcliff@elcamino.edu). For information regarding the commercial music technology program, contact Professor Harvey Estrada at 310-900-1600, ext. 2975.

El Camino College Compton Center is accredited and serving the educational needs of our community. Students are able to earn an associate degree, transfer to a four-year university or receive career training. Fees are only \$20 per unit. The college catalog, class schedule, evenings and weekend college offerings are available in-person or on-line at [www.compton.edu](http://www.compton.edu). Compton Center is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA; 310-900-1600.

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