



NEWS

El Camino College Compton Center
Public Relations Department | 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506
Tel: 310-660-3406 | Fx: 310-660-3946 | Contact: Ann M. Garten | agarten@elcamino.edu

For Immediate Release

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At El Camino College Compton Center, The Play's the Thing!

The El Camino College Compton Center Theater Arts Program is presenting *The Diner Dialogues*, an original piece from improvisation work by the theater production classes, on October 16, 17, 20 and 21. All performances are at 7:30 p.m. at Compton Center, building Y, room 82. Admission is \$5.00, and seating is limited. You are invited to the "diner" to watch the characters interact as the play unfolds.

The presentation is produced and directed by Dr. P.J. Van Niel, who formed the program in 1972 and has been at its helm since then, along with Tim Stewart, the technical director. Dr. Van Niel says: "I take particular pleasure in this production because the ensemble cast created a very special piece with a warm and positive message. The students have a real sense of ownership of this production." He indicates that many students enter the program with limited or no experience in theater. "We watch them as they discover the magical world of theater and are open to new experiences and ways of learning," says Van Niel.

One of the actors in the production, Sam Williams, is a former student at the Compton campus in the late '70s. He is a local artist who wanted to reconnect with the theater arts program. An installation of his artwork will be on display during the performances.

The theater arts program focuses coursework and production work on theater as a three dimensional, live process presenting people in action within the context of time, space and culture. The program emphasizes theoretical and practical work in reality-based acting as well as directing, design and stagecraft. A sense of community is fostered in the theater classroom and in each production.

For information about the production or the theater arts program, contact Tim Stewart at 310-900-1600, ext. 2962 or Dr. Van Niel at ext. 2965.

El Camino College Compton Center is accredited and serving the educational needs of our community. Students can 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, evening and weekend college offerings are available in-person or online at www.compton.edu. Compton Center is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA; 310-900-1600.

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