



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

June 2, 2011

William Allen Young to Deliver 2011 Commencement Address at El Camino College Compton Center

El Camino College Compton Center is pleased to announce that William Allen Young will deliver this year's commencement address on June 9. Young, an acclaimed actor, orator and advocate for higher education, has a passion for inspiring young people to become future leaders and champions of change in their communities and society. Young is El Camino College alumnus who, in 1976, was ranked as one of the top forensics team speakers among all community colleges in the nation.

A Washington D.C. native who spent his formative years living in South Central Los Angeles, Young rose from humble beginnings to achieve notable success. His acting career spans two decades and includes starring roles on hit television series' like *Moesha* and *CSI: Miami*, as well as in stage and film productions—including the Academy Award-nominated film, *A Soldier's Story*.

Young's journey of success and national fame began at age 13 when he discovered acting. He studied at the famed Inner City Acting Academy and later honed his skills at the University of Southern California (USC) under the direction of his mentor, American theatre icon John Houseman. He later traveled to Russia to study at the renowned Moscow Art Theatre.

A belief in the value of higher education led Young to establish his own nonprofit organization, Young Center for Academic & Cultural Enrichment, where he works to create opportunities for economically disadvantaged youth to realize their dreams of earning a college degree. Over the years, his work has changed the lives of children around the world.

While attending USC, Young led the Trojan Debate Squad to two consecutive National Championships and is now a dynamic motivational speaker. His extensive client list includes organizations such as Northrop Grumman, NAACP, California Teachers Association, Los Angeles Community College District, Stanford University and USC.

Young graduated from Locke High School in Los Angeles, and became a distinguished graduate at USC. He earned a masters degree in Sociolinguistics and a bachelor's degree in Rhetoric & Debate.

About El Camino College Compton Center

El Camino College Compton Center is the community's education solution offering a full complement of transfer and degree courses, as well as career and technical education. Students may earn an associate degree or certificate, transfer to a four-year university or train for a career. Many classes are available and offered at an affordable price—fees are only \$26 per unit. The catalog and class schedule for day, evening, weekend and online courses is available on the website at www.compton.edu or may be picked up at ECC Compton Center located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA. For more information, call 310-900-1600.