



Press Release

Contact: Office of the College President,
Cari Craven, (209) 588-5115

PUBLIC INVITED TO COLUMBIA COLLEGE MEASURE E BUILDING GRAND REOPENING CELEBRATION

Columbia College will celebrate the Grand Reopening of the upper level of the Manzanita Building on Friday, September 18 from 9:00 a.m. to noon and the public is invited to attend. The building was funded by Measure E, which was passed in November 2004 by voters in the area served by the Yosemite Community College District (YCCD), of which Columbia College is a part. "We appreciate the support of our community and the voters who made possible the extensive renovations to the campus that have occurred over the past few years due to the passage of Measure E. The college is a wonderful resource for the communities we serve in Tuolumne and Calaveras counties," says Dr. Angela Fairchilds, Columbia College President.

The Manzanita Building second floor spans 22,791 sq. ft. and houses student support and business services, administration and the Columbia College Foundation. It is also the location of the Rotunda, which acts as the heart of the building and serves as a display gallery and student gathering area, providing space for community and campus events. The renovation allowed for reorganization of the upper level to make access to services easier for students. The centralization of departments provides quick and easy access to services such as Admissions and Records, where students register, Financial Aid, Counseling, and Special Programs, all efficiently organized around a queuing area. Additionally, administrative offices were relocated and consolidated into one area. "Being able to have all of the services we need in one place makes coming to college less overwhelming. It's so helpful, as a student, to have everything together instead of being shuffled around to different locations," says Janette Herrera, a liberal studies student and Student Ambassador at the College.

The Manzanita renovation project also served the critical need to upgrade and repair the utility systems of the building by replacing nearly 90% of the mechanical systems to current energy efficient standards. These include electrical services, safety features, such as fire alarm and sprinkler systems, and ADA compliant accessibility features, such as the elevator systems. Additional energy efficient enhancements included the installation of dual-pane energy efficient windows and LED lighting with timers and motion sensor automatic shut-offs.

The \$9.2 million renovation was designed by Lionakis of Sacramento and project management is by Kitchell, CEM of Sacramento.

Photos Attached:

"Columbia College" Archway in front of the Manzanita Building

Janette Herrera, Student Ambassador, in the Manzanita Building Rotunda



Cari Craven

Interim Executive Assistant to the President

11600 Columbia College Drive

Sonora, CA 95370

(209) 588-5115 (209) 588-5161 fax

cravenc@yosemite.edu <http://www.gocolumbia.edu>

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